



Report to **STAKEHOLDERS**

January 2024

Volume 29 No.1



**Edwards AFB November 2023
RAB meeting highlights** page 2

Report to Stakeholders is a publication of the Air Force Civil Engineer Center, Installation Support Section at Edwards AFB (AFCEC/CZOW). Its purpose is to inform and educate the public, base workers and residents about continuing Environmental Restoration Program efforts on base. It currently has a circulation of 4,000, including about 1,100 subscribers.

Contents of the Report to Stakeholders are not necessarily the official view of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

All photos are property of the Air Force, unless otherwise identified.

Any comments or questions about the contents of the Report to Stakeholders may be directed to:

Gary Hatch
412 TW/PA
305 E. Popson Ave.
Edwards AFB, CA 93524
(661) 277-8707
E-mail: 412tw.pae@us.af.mil



412th Test Wing Commander
Col Douglas Wickert
Edwards Remedial Project Manager
Paul Schiff

STAKEHOLDER STAFF

EDITOR

Sean F. McDaniel

CONTRIBUTOR

Belinda Martinez

WHAT'S ON THE COVER?

United States Environmental Protection Agency Remedial Project Manager Ethan Finkel speaks to the Restoration Advisory Board as fellow U.S. EPA RPMs, Dante Rodriguez (left) and Mohamed Ibrahim (right), listen attentively.



EDWARDS RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS, from left to right: Mohamed Ibrahim, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency remedial project manager; Toufic Zeidan, California EPA Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board RPM; William Gaddis, Rosamond representative; Alexia Svejda, California City representative; Col. Matthew Caspers, Air Force co-chair; David Soltis, base housing representative; Kevin Depies, California EPA Department of Toxic Substances Control RPM; Ethan Finkel, U.S. EPA RPM; Dante Rodriguez, U.S. EPA RPM; and Paul Schiff, Edwards AFB RPM.

RAB members meet to discuss cleanup progress at Edwards AFB

At the November 2023 Restoration Advisory Board meeting in Boron, California, Edwards Air Force Base remedial project manager Paul Schiff briefed the board members about ongoing base cleanup efforts and environmental restoration activities over the past six months. The board consists of base officials, state and federal regulators and public representatives who foster two-way communication between the public and those responsible for environmental cleanup.

Starting with an update on the Community Involvement Plan, which identifies community issues and concerns related to the Edwards ERP, Schiff said that the August 2023 CIP is available on the Edwards public website (www.edwards.af.mil/about/environment) with a link on the RAB Facebook site (www.facebook.com/RAB.Edwards).

Schiff also discussed the Phase I Remedial Investigation efforts underway for aqueous film-forming foam areas involving perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS for short. On Nov. 12, 2021, field event No. 1 was completed with groundwater sampling performed at 162 existing monitoring wells. From October 2022 to November 2022 field event No. 2 was conducted, which included: monitoring well installation, source area sampling and groundwater sampling at 340 monitoring wells. Starting January 2024, field event No. 3 will include the installation of 36 monitoring wells, 85 soil borings and sampling of 430 groundwater monitoring wells.

For Operable Unit 1/8 Main Base, Schiff said Technical Working Group meetings continue to be held to resolve issues such as vapor intrusion for incorporation into the Feasibility Study Addendum. A groundwater and soil investigation was conducted in support of the OU1/8 FS Addendum to finish characterizing Site 58 soil and groundwater in addition to OU1/8 nitrate and trichloroethene groundwater contaminant plumes. He said that the investigation will help determine whether biodegradation of TCE is occurring. Additionally for OU1/8, the semiannual indoor air sampling results from May 18, 2023 for Building 1807 confirmed that TCE levels are below all action levels with the heating, ventilation and air conditioning operating continuously. The Draft Building 1807 Indoor Air Monitoring Report for November 2022 through May 2023

was submitted in August 2023 for regulatory review. Schiff noted that the next sampling event was scheduled for Nov. 28, 2023.

Schiff reported that execution of the Air Force Research Laboratory Arroyos Record of Decision dispute resolution is ongoing. The Air Force, regulatory staff and legal counsels continue to meet to address the few remaining items of disagreement. Once a Draft Final ROD is agreed to by all parties, the Air Force will prepare and publish a new AFRL Arroyos Proposed Plan, announce availability of the plan for public comment and conduct a public meeting. The public comments will be incorporated into the Final AFRL Arroyos ROD.

Schiff also updated the board members on Site 25. He said the Air Force anticipates submitting a Revised Draft Site 25 FS in the summer of 2024. Simultaneously, the Air Force is developing an updated three-dimensional groundwater model for remedy development using the latest model platform to address regulatory comments. Schiff shared that in August 2023, the Air Force terminated the Site 25 phytoremediation treatability study that used poplar trees to break down contaminants from extracted groundwater. The study was deemed unsuccessful because of the low survival rate of the trees due to high salt content in the soil, high temperature, low humidity and high winds. The study site will be restored to its initial state.

Before ending the RAB meeting, Gary Hatch, 412th Test Wing Public Affairs, informed the board of six public representative vacancies. Two vacancies are for the off-base communities of Boron and North Edwards, while four are for the on-base communities of Main Base, NASA Armstrong, South Base and North Base.

The next semiannual RAB meeting is scheduled to be held in Mojave, California on May 16, 2024. Meeting

details will be advertised in local newspapers and posted on the RAB's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/RAB.Edwards. The public is encouraged to attend.

BECOME PART OF THE SOLUTION

Are you at least 18 years of age and live or work in the following areas: Boron, Main Base, NASA Armstrong, North Base, North Edwards and South Base?

Then apply to be a public representative on the RAB!

Public representatives act as a channel for environmental cleanup information and are not expected to be environmental experts. Learn about the cleanup activities taking place at Edwards AFB and help facilitate communication between the Air Force and anyone interested in the environmental cleanup of the base.

For more information or to receive an application, contact:
Gary Hatch, 412th Test Wing Public Affairs,
at (661) 277-8707
or e-mail 412tw.rab@us.af.mil

Where to find more INFORMATION



Published data and documents related to the Environmental Restoration Program at Edwards are available for public review at three Information Repositories and online at www.ar.afcec-cloud.af.mil. The Information Repositories are located at:

Edwards AFB Main Library

5 W. Yeager Blvd.
Edwards AFB, California
(661) 275-2665
www.edwardsfss.com/library/

Kern County Public Library Wanda Kirk Branch

3611 Rosamond Blvd.
Rosamond, California
(661) 256-3236
www.kerncountylibrary.org/find-hours-locations

Los Angeles County Public Library

601 W. Lancaster Blvd.
Lancaster, California
(661) 948-5029
www.lacountylibrary.org/lancaster-library

For questions about documents in the repositories, you may contact Gary Hatch, 412th Test Wing Public Affairs, at (661) 277-8707 or by e-mail at 412tw.pae@us.af.mil.

General information about the environmental program at Edwards can be found at the following websites:

www.edwards.af.mil/About/Environment/
www.facebook.com/EdwardsEnvMgt

AFCEC/CZOW
120 N ROSAMOND
BLVD, STE A
EDWARDS AFB CA 93524
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Restoration Advisory Board Information

The RAB is made up of appointed representatives from communities on and around Edwards AFB, regulators from federal and state agencies and base officials. The board's purpose is to provide a forum for two-way communication between the public and those responsible for environmental cleanup at the base.

The board meets semiannually, rotating meeting locations among communities surrounding the base. The public is welcome to attend. Those who have questions or concerns about cleanup activities at Edwards may contact any RAB member or Gary Hatch, 412th Test Wing Public Affairs,

at (661) 277-8707.

The RAB also has its own Facebook site: "Like" us on Facebook today!

NEXT BOARD MEETING
MAY 16, 2024
5:30 p.m.
Comfort Inn
Mojave, California

RAB Members

OFF-BASE COMMUNITIES

Boron

Vacant — If you live or work in Boron, you may apply to be a public representative.

California City

Alexia Svejda (760) 373-8676
info@californiacitychamber.com

Lancaster

Raj Malhi (661) 723-6019
rmalhi@cityoflancasterca.org

Darrell Dorris (alternate)

(661) 723-6019
ddorris@cityoflancasterca.org

Mojave

Victor Yaw (661) 754-1641
vicyaw@yahoo.com

North Edwards

Vacant — If you live or work in North Edwards, you may apply to be a public representative.

Rosamond

William Gaddis (661) 238-5389
wrgadfr@icloud.com

ON-BASE COMMUNITIES

Housing

David Soltis (661) 277-3688
david.soltis@us.af.mil (850) 380-8096

Main Base Test Wing

Vacant — If you work at Main Base Test Wing, you may apply to be a public representative.

NASA Armstrong

Vacant — If you work at NASA Armstrong, you may apply to be a public representative.

North Base

Vacant — If you work at North Base, you may apply to be a public representative.

South Base

Vacant — If you work at South Base, you may apply to be a public representative.

Air Force Research Laboratory

Joe Mabry (661) 857-6289
joseph.mabry@us.af.mil

Report to STAKEHOLDERS

Subscribe Modify Cancel

By mail

Mail this form to:
412 TW/PA
RTS Subscription
305 E. Popson Ave.
Edwards AFB, California 93524

OR

By e-mail

Send request to
412tw.rts@us.af.mil

Name

Organization

Address

City

State Zip

E-mail Address

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Remedial Project Managers

California Dept. of Toxic Substances Control

Kevin Depies (916) 255-6547
Bruce Lewis (916) 255-6576
bruce.lewis@dtsc.ca.gov

California Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

Mark Allen (760) 241-7391
mark.allen@waterboards.ca.gov
Toufic Zeidan (760) 241-6583
toufic.zeidan@waterboards.ca.gov

Edwards AFB

Paul Schiff (661) 277-1469
paul.schiff@us.af.mil

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Ethan Finkel (415) 972-3127
finkel.ethan@epa.gov

Mohamed Ibrahim (415) 972-3184
ibrahim.mohamed.n@epa.gov

Dante Rodriguez (415) 972-3166
rodriguez.dante@epa.gov