

**EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE
ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROGRAM
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD
CHARTER**



November 2012

EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROGRAM RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD CHARTER

I. NAME

This group shall be known as the EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROGRAM (ERP), RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB).

II. AUTHORITY

The basis and authority for the RAB and its Charter is established pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) of 1986, particularly Sections 120(a), 120(f), and 121(f); Title 10 United States Code (U.S.C.) Section 2705, enacted by Section 211 of SARA; Executive Order 12580; and the FY95 Defense Appropriations Act, Public Law 103-337, Section 326.

III. PURPOSE

A. The mission statement for the RAB is as follows: "The Restoration Advisory Board furthers community awareness and involvement in the Edwards Air Force Base Environmental Restoration Program through review of technical documents and exchange of information relative to basewide cleanup."

B. The primary function of the RAB, as a distinct element of the Community Relations Program, is to foster community awareness and promote community involvement, wherein government agencies and Public Representatives engage in coordinated review and dialogue on

various ERP issues at Edwards Air Force Base, California, as they relate to environmental impacts the Edwards Air Force Base presence poses on affected/interested communities.

C. The RAB members will provide comments on environmental documents as individuals and/or on behalf of community organizations with which they are affiliated. The RAB will not render advice or recommendations as a group or submit recommendations to a group vote.

D. In accordance with Title 10 U.S.C. Section 2705(d), the RAB shall operate as a mechanism through which the local community is apprised of, may have input on, and make recommendations on, including but not limited to, the following:

1. The ongoing investigative actions taken at each ERP site;
2. The degree and composition of contamination at each site;
3. The order of priority set for remediation of all sites;
4. The remedial alternatives proposed for each site;
5. The proposed schedule of cleanup; and,
6. The impact, or potential impact, if any, of site contamination and the cleanup on the local populace and the environment.

IV. ORGANIZATION AND MEMBERSHIP

A. The RAB shall be chaired by the Installation Commander's (412 TW/CC) designee and a Public Representative who is selected by the RAB public members. The Co-Chairs will be provided with an opportunity to coordinate the agenda for each meeting as specified in the Edwards Air Force Base ERP RAB Bylaws (the Bylaws).

B. Permanent membership on the RAB shall include, at a minimum, representatives (Remedial Project Managers [RPMs]) from each of the following: Edwards Air Force Base; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA), Region IX; California EPA Department of Toxic Substances Control; the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region; and one Public Representative from each affected community. The community being represented may nominate an alternate Public Representative at its discretion. Additionally, technical advisors to the RPMs shall actively participate in planning and discussions during all meetings. Technical advisors shall include, by way of illustration but not by limitation: Operable Unit (OU) Program Managers, public health and safety representatives, a public affairs representative, and a judge advocate representative.

C. All other interested parties from regulatory agencies and other organizations shall be considered invitees, as may be necessary depending on the issues to be discussed.

D. The two biannual formal Restoration Advisory Board meetings are open to the general public and there is a time provided during the meeting for the public to address the board. Public comments are limited to the portion of the meeting identified for that purpose and must pertain to the Environmental Restoration Program at Edwards Air Force Base. Inquiries,

oral or written, from the public concerning the ERP or its activities, may also be brought before the board through any RAB member. Written inquiries can be submitted online through the RAB's social media website at www.facebook.com/RAB.Edwards.

E. The Air Force shall request the local communities bordering the Base to nominate a public member to represent the community interests that are impacted or potentially impacted by response actions at Edwards Air Force Base. Additionally, the Air Force shall identify major areas within Edwards Air Force Base and shall seek a nominee from each area to serve on the RAB. Each Public Representative must have sufficient technical background or interest to provide meaningful comment on the matters to be reviewed. The Public Representative must also have a constituency or active affiliation with a large number of community members in order to disseminate information concerning the Base's ERP. Public Representatives from the interested communities shall work or reside in that community. The Air Force, U.S. EPA, and the State of California shall be provided the opportunity to review and comment on nominations of Public Representatives before forwarding for final approval by the 412 TW/CC (or designee). Public Representatives will be screened for potential conflicts of interest.

F. The RAB members will serve without compensation or reimbursement.

G. In the event any representative withdraws or is removed from the RAB, the sponsoring organization will notify a RAB Co-Chair and nominate a suitable replacement. Replacements will receive final approval by the 412 TW/CC (or designee).

H. Public members shall be appointed for 2 years and can be renominated by their

respective community/organization. The Air Force Co-Chair and RPMs shall retain their RAB appointments until their involvement in the Edwards Air Force Base ERP is terminated (by resignation, transfer, retirement, promotion, other project assignment, or personal request).

I. A RAB member may be removed from the Board:

1. By written request to the sponsoring organization and 412 TW/CC (or designee) by the member,
2. By board action after missing two consecutive biannual meetings (no member shall be removed if absence is due to good cause shown),
3. For failure to abide by the requirements of this Charter and the accompanying Bylaws, or
4. By recommendation of sponsoring organization in accordance with process detailed in Section VI of the Bylaws.

J. Primary and alternate Public Representatives will perform the same functions except as stated in Section V of this Charter.

V. MEETINGS

A. The RAB will convene biannually or more often as requirements dictate. In addition to two public formal meetings held in off-base rotating locations, the RAB will meet as necessary on base for working-group sessions, online through the RAB's social media website, or via phone conferencing.

B. The Air Force Co-Chair (or designee) will be responsible for notifying all members of scheduled meetings and provide other logistical support as specified in the Bylaws.

C. The Air Force Co-Chair (or designee) will be responsible for arranging the recording of the minutes of the meetings and for dissemination of these minutes to members. Meeting minutes shall be distributed to participants 10 days prior to the next scheduled meeting and will be available for public review.

D. Public Representatives will be responsible for regularly informing interested citizens or groups on the ERP activities. Public Representatives will report on their activities. Reports and concerns from citizens will be presented by the primary member from each community at each regularly scheduled RAB meeting or through a social media site maintained by the Air Force.

E. When a community is represented by a primary and an alternate Public Representative, the duties of the representative shall rest with the primary member unless the primary member is absent from the meeting. In the absence of the primary Public Representative, the alternate will serve as the primary member.

VI. DECISIONAL AUTHORITY

The RAB serves to obtain a coordinated and informed review of the ERP at Edwards Air Force Base. The final selection and implementation of any remedial action will be in accordance with applicable State and Federal laws, the Edwards Air Force Base Federal Facility Agreement, and will consider input derived from RAB meetings or social media/working group discussions.

This Charter shall be amended as required by changes in State and Federal laws or regulations. Public Representatives may recommend amendments to this Charter. Amendments not required by law will require approval by the RPMs representing the Air Force, the

U.S. EPA, the State of California, and the 412 TW/CC.

Nothing in this Charter shall amend the rights and responsibilities of the Air Force, U.S. EPA, or the State of California.

VII. TERMINATION

This Charter shall be terminated after implementation of the final basewide remedial design. It may also be terminated earlier upon a unanimous vote of the RPMs.

VIII. EFFECTIVE DATE

The effective date of this Charter shall be the date of the last signature.

//original signed by//

15 Nov 12

AMY V. ARWOOD, Colonel, USAF
Air Force Co-Chair
Edwards Air Force Base, California

Date

//original signed by//

15 Nov 12

BRUCE H. DAVIES
Public Representative Co-Chair
Edwards Air Force Base, California

Date

Approved:

//original signed by//

12 Dec 12

MICHAEL T. BREWER, Brigadier General, USAF
Commander
Edwards Air Force Base, California

Date