

Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst (JB-MDL)
Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Final Meeting Minutes
Meeting No. 74 – 01 May 2025

SUBJECT: Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting No. 74 – Meeting Minutes

- 1) Place: In Person and Virtual Meeting via MS Teams
- 2) Date/Time: Thursday, 01 May 2025; 6:30 PM
- 3) Co-Chairs: Mr. Christopher Archer, Deputy Base Civil Engineer, JB MDL
Mr. Michael Tamn, Resident, Southampton Township, New Jersey
- 4) Attendees (virtual attendees noted with *):

Mr. Frank Storm	RAB Community Member
Ms. Branwen Ellis*	NJ Pinelands Commission, RAB Member
Mr. Gene Fowler	Pinelands Municipal Council, RAB Member
Ms. Carla Struble*	US Environmental Protection Agency, Region II (EPA)
Mr. Bill Friedmann	US Environmental Protection Agency, Region II (EPA)
Mr. Doug Pocze*	US Environmental Protection Agency, Region II (EPA)
Mr. Steven Petrucelli*	US Environmental Protection Agency, Region II (EPA)
Ms. Karyn Treinen*	US Environmental Protection Agency, Region II (EPA)
Ms. Kristine Iazzetta	NJ Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP)
Ms. Chrissy Hart	NJ Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP)
Mr. Michael Figura	JB MDL, AFCEC/CZOE, Environmental Restoration Program
Mr. Jim Richman	JB MDL, AFCEC/CZOE, Environmental Restoration Program
Mr. Michael Wierman	JB MDL, AFCEC/CZOE, Environmental Restoration Program
Ms. Jalise Wright	JB MDL, AFCEC/CZOE, Environmental Restoration Program
Mr. Jeffrey Simonsen	JB MDL, AFCEC/CZOE, Environmental Restoration Program
Ms. Ola Kirk*	AFCEC
Mr. Curt Frye*	AFCEC
Mr. Alex Carnivale	Community Member
Ms. Allison O'Brien*	US Army Corps of Engineers
Ms. Sarah DeFalco	Community Member/Burlington County Health Department
Mr. Gaby Atik	FPM Remediations
Mr. Niels van Hoesel	FPM Remediations
Ms. Ellie Cook*	FPM Remediations
Ms. Lisa Coffey*	FPM Remediations
Mr. Bob McGlade	Weston Solutions
Ms. Samantha Saalfield*	EA Engineering
Ms. Katrina Harris	Bridge Consulting Corp./FPM

5) Handouts

- JB MDL RAB, Meeting No. 74, 01 May 2025, Agenda
- JB MDL RAB, Meeting No. 74, 01 May 2025, Presentation Slides

6) Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Christopher Archer, Deputy Base Civil Engineer, JB-MDL. He welcomed everyone and thanked everyone for attending the in person and virtual meeting of the RAB.

7) Administrative Items and Review of Agenda Items (PowerPoint slides #1-6)

Mr. Jim Richman noted the meeting was being recorded for the purpose of preparing the minutes. He asked for any comments on the January 2025 meeting minutes and none were offered; the minutes were approved by motion.

Mr. Richman stated there were no open action items from the previous meeting. He stated public comments were addressed at the meeting and included in the minutes.

Mr. Richman reviewed how public notices and announcements are publicized including notices in the Burlington County Times, Asbury Park Press, and Pine Barrens Tribune. He also advised notices, RAB presentations and minutes, and a limited number of documents are available on the RAB website at <https://envirostorejbmdl.com>. Mr. Richman stated documents are also available at the Burlington County Library in Westampton, the Ocean County Library in Toms River, and the full Administrative Record online at <https://ar.cce.af.mil>.

Mr. Richman reviewed the meeting agenda.

8) Lakehurst Proving Grounds (Site ZZ003) (PowerPoint slides #7-15)

Mr. Figura referenced a presentation he gave at the January 2025 meeting regarding the planned surface clearance at this site. He reviewed the site history, noting it was used for projectile testing, including chemical projectiles, and practice bombing. He discussed the finding of projectiles and disposal pits at the site and noted a new contract was awarded to conduct additional surface clearance. Mr. Figura explained the objective of the additional surface clearance is to address 190 acres and will identify and remove any munitions and explosives of concern at or on the ground surface at the Lakehurst Test Track Area.

Mr. Figura stated the clearance had begun and displayed a map showing the clearance status as of April 7, 2025. He also displayed a photograph of a 75mm projectile found on March 24 and stated EOD staff had responded, x-rayed the projectile, and determined it was intact and liquid filled. He continued explaining the item was sealed, packaged, and removed to a secure location. He noted support had been requested from the chemical munition experts located at Aberdeen Proving Ground, and their technology identified the item as CNS or riot control/tear gas

Mr. Figura displayed a photograph of the explosive destruction system brought to Lakehurst to handle suspect chemical munitions in 2016, and advised the system had again been requested.

Mr. Figura discussed the development of a contract modification.

Mr. Archer asked how old the item found is, and Mr. Figura said it was likely from 1916 based on the age of the fuse described by the Explosive Ordnance Division. In response to questions about the item's condition and if the site was formerly a Russian facility, Mr. Figura responded it was still possible to see the item had been fired, and while it was a Russian facility, the Russians did not use the area as a munitions facility. Mr. Figura stated it was not until 1916 when the Army took over the

facility that it became a munitions facility.

9) PFAS Remedial Investigation at McGuire (PowerPoint slides #16-74)

Mr. Bob McGlade of Weston Solutions, contractor to JB MDL, reviewed the Phase I PFAS Remedial Investigation at McGuire. He advised the field work had begun in May of 2022 to investigate 14 validated Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF) sites and was recently completed. He noted there were two unvalidated sites on McGuire (Main Ramps and the Former McGuire Wastewater Treatment Plant Area 10) not included in the Phase I Remedial Investigation. He explained the objective is to determine the nature and extent of any PFAS contamination. He added a risk assessment is not included as part of this task, but the data collected will be able to be used for a risk assessment in the future. Mr. McGlade discussed a map and list of the 14 sites which are across McGuire and noted the sites include old fire station releases, AFFF releases from hangers, plane crash sites, fire training areas, bulk fuel storage areas, and the waste water treatment plant sludge disposal area.

Mr. McGlade discussed the sampling of 275 existing monitoring wells, soil sampling, pore water sampling, installation of new monitoring wells, and groundwater, surface water and sediment sampling at 157 locations done as part of the investigation. He advised the Conceptual Site Model had been updated and a three-dimensional model of the extent of PFAS contamination generated. He stated more than 2,500 environmental samples had been collected as part of the investigation at the 14 sites.

Mr. McGlade reviewed several key observations regarding the investigation and his presentation:

- PFOS is present at all sites and generally has the highest exceedances and encompasses areas associated with other PFAS compound exceedances, where they exist.
- Co-mingling of groundwater plumes is extensive at McGuire.
- Far downgradient surface water and sediment results may be influenced from multiple sites, including Dix sites for surface water bodies to the south, or unidentified off-post sources.
- Groundwater and soil exceedance contours are mathematical interpolations based upon analytical results.

Mr. McGlade displayed the screening levels used and noted the screening levels have been changing as EPA finalizes new criteria. He also displayed maps showing local groundwater flow direction, as well as overall groundwater sampling locations. He also displayed maps showing overall groundwater sampling results, as well as surface water flow direction and surface water and sediment sampling. Mr. McGlade reiterated that co-mingling is occurring at most sites, and additional sampling is needed. He noted PFOS has been detected across most of McGuire, and PFOA has also been detected but has a smaller footprint.

Mr. McGlade then discussed each of the 14 Sites. He displayed maps showing the site and sampling locations. He reviewed the preliminary sampling results which allow for decisions to be made about additional sampling needed and where to install permanent monitoring wells. He also noted which media (soil, groundwater, sediment or surface water) has been bounded and to what extent.

Mr. McGlade reviewed several challenges including changes in screening levels after starting the project, nearby upgradient and downgradient validated and unvalidated sites which complicated the evaluation of sampling results, and extensive areas of impervious surface at some sites. He noted recent activities include additional well installations and sampling, additional soil step out sampling, and additional surface water/sediment sampling.

Mr. McGlade summarized the McGuire and Dix PFAS investigations to date in groundwater, surface

water and sediment. He reiterated that additional sampling is needed.

Mr. Archer asked how long it will take to complete the Remedial Investigation, and Mr. McGlade responded that preparation of the Remedial Investigation Report has begun in order to be completed by the end of the contract period which is September 2025. Mr. Richman added that the next contract will be Phase 1A of the Remedial Investigation, with Phase II to include the risk assessment. Mr. Archer asked if the ongoing PFAS investigations will impact Records of Decision for other sites, and Mr. Richman responded they would not be impacted, as the PFAS sites are being addressed separately and will have separate Records of Decision.

10) LF019 Record of Decision (PowerPoint slides #75-86)

Mr. Niels van Hoesel of FPM Remediations, contractor to JBMDL, summarized the site background, noting LF019 is one of four sites within Operable Unit 3 located in the northeastern corner of JB-MDL-McGuire. He stated it is a 5.5-acre landfill that was used for inert material disposal from 1970 to 1973 with the waste volume estimated at 82,000 cubic yards.

Mr. van Hoesel discussed two time-critical removal actions performed in 2012 and 2021 at Site LF019 to consolidate waste and then to remove 30,940 pounds of material potentially presenting an explosive hazard (MPPEH) which was destroyed, safely disposed of, or salvaged. He displayed a map showing the location of the two removal actions.

Mr. van Hoesel advised that the Record of Decision has been signed for LF019 in 2024. He said Site LF019 was not included in the 2019 Operable Unit 3 Record of Decision because the MPPEH needed to be removed before LF019 could be covered. He explained the remedy selected was waste consolidation and grading, construction of a two-foot soil cover, PCB hot-spot removal, long-term groundwater and surface water monitoring, and establishment of land use controls; this remedy is consistent with the remedy for the other Operable Unit 3 landfill sites.

Mr. van Hoesel discussed the LF019 Remedial Design, noting it was scheduled to begin in the fall or winter of 2025 after the final design was approved by the regulators. He explained the field work would take about 35 days. He added that the action would also include four quarters of groundwater and surface water sampling, with the results included in a Remedial Action Completion Report.

11) Response Complete/Site Closure Update (PowerPoint slides #87-94)

Mr. van Hoesel next provided an update on Site Closures, noting 5 sites have been closed with another 16 planned by the end of the Optimized Remediation Contract in 2034. He noted 135 sites in the JB MDL environmental program have been closed to date: 42 at McGuire, 58 at Dix, and 35 at Lakehurst.

12) RAB and Public Comments:

Mr. Tamn asked for additional questions from RAB members and then from members of the public observing the meeting.

A member of the public asked about the Federal rollback of Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) for PFAS. Mr. Richman responded that the Air Force is reviewing and will provide guidance for Air Force bases. The member of the public asked if another community meeting on PFAS would be held, and Mr. Richman said it is being considered for perhaps the summer or fall. Mr. Bill Friedmann added that the online Administrative Record would also be updated with new PFAS information as it

becomes available.

13) Meeting Adjourned:

Mr. Tamn asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 PM.