Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst (JB-MDL)
Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Final Meeting Minutes
Meeting No. 76 – 26 March 2026

SUBJECT: Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting No. 76 – Meeting Minutes

1) Place: In Person and Virtual Meeting via MS Teams

2) Date/Time: Thursday, 26 March 2026; 6:30 PM

3) Co-Chairs: Mr. Dustin Brown, Deputy Base Civil Engineer, JB MDL (not present)
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. Stephen Elliott*	Pinelands Alliance, RAB Member
Mr. Gene Fowler*	Pinelands Municipal Council, RAB Member
Mr. Tom Besselman	RAB Community Member
Ms. Karyn Treinen	US Environmental Protection Agency, Region II (EPA)
Mr. Bill Friedmann	US Environmental Protection Agency, Region II (EPA)
Mr. Steven Petrucelli*	US Environmental Protection Agency, Region II (EPA)
Mr. Ron Poustchi*	NJ Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP)
Ms. Chrissy Hart*	NJ Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP)
Ms. Kristine Iazzetta	NJ Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP)
Mr. Michael Figura	JB MDL, AFCEC/CZOE, Environmental Restoration Program
Mr. Michael Wierman	JB MDL, AFCEC/CZRE, Environmental Restoration Program
Mr. Jim Richman	JB MDL, AFCEC/CZOE, Environmental Restoration Program
Ms. Aleksandra Kirk	JB MDL, AFCEC, Environmental Restoration Program
Mr. Jeffrey Simonsen	JB MDL, AFCEC/CZOE, Environmental Restoration Program
Mr. Frank McLaughlin	JB MDL, AFCEC, Contractor, Cherokee Federal
Ms. Maurizia DePalma	JB MDL, AFCEC, Contractor, Cherokee Federal
Ms. Allison O'Brien*	US Army Corps of Engineers
Ms. Marissa Lucento*	US Army Corps of Engineers
Mr. C.J. Ditsious*	US Army Corps of Engineers
Mr. Gerald Shay*	US Army Corps of Engineers
Mr. Scott Forbes*	US Army Corps of Engineers
Mr. Gaby Atik*	FPM Remediations
Mr. Niels van Hoesel	FPM Remediations
Ms. Ellie Cook*	FPM Remediations
Mr. Tom Crone	Arcadis
Mr. David Heuer	Arcadis
Ms. Samantha Saalfield*	EA Engineering
Ms. Cheyenne Kitson	Member of General Public
Ms. Katrina Harris	Bridge Consulting Corp./FPM

5) Handouts

- JB MDL RAB, Meeting No. 76, 26 March 2026, Agenda
- JB MDL RAB, Meeting No. 76, 26 March 2026, Presentation Slides

6) Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Michael Tamn, Community Co Chair. Mr. Jim Richman of JB MDL welcomed everyone and thanked everyone for attending the in-person and virtual meeting of the RAB.

7) Administrative Items and Review of Action Items (PowerPoint slides #1-8)

Mr. Richman advised the new Air Force Co-Chair, replacing Mr. Archer who retired, is Mr. Dustin Brown. He also introduced Ms. Maurizia DePalma who is replacing Ms. Jalise Wright in the Environmental Division. He noted the meeting was being recorded for the purpose of preparing the minutes. He asked for any comments on the August 2025 meeting minutes and none were offered. Mr. Richman said the minutes will be finalized and posted to the website at https://envirorestorejbmdl.com.

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://envirorestorejbmdl.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 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 said prior to the August RAB meeting, the RAB co-chairs discussed the disposition of the former BOMARC Missile Launcher, and the requested information will be presented next.

Mr. Richman advised the BOMARC site is located east of McGuire. He reviewed the site background and history, noting that in 1960, a lightning strike resulted in the explosion of a helium tank in Shelter 204 rupturing a JP-X fuel tank in the launcher pit of the shelter. He explained the shelter housed a nuclear-tipped, liquid-filled missile which released weapons grade plutonium fissile material from the warhead. Mr. Richman continued explaining that an immediate emergency response in 1960 removed significant amounts of radioactive materials within the shelter where most of the radioactive material was contained. Mr. Richman displayed a site map showing the shelters and drainage ditch. Mr. Richman reviewed the comprehensive steps taken in the disposition of the missile launcher including numerous investigations, surveys, and response actions from 1960 through 2007. He provided references to several documents, including the Record of Decision, the Public Health Assessment, and the BOMARC Final Remedial Action Report. Mr. Richman also provided reference to an NJDEP document approving the site for unrestricted use in 2012.

Mr. Richman explained the shelter was dismantled and brought to the Fort Dix scrap yard; from there, the disposal was handled by the Idaho National Laboratory. He added that personnel interviewed by ATSDR for the Public Health Assessment stated contamination from the incident was limited to the BOMARC area.

Mr. Tamn asked if there would be any follow-up review of the site. Mr. Richman responded that there was not a need to do any additional review related to the radiation as a final report had been issued, and the site

approved for unrestricted use by NJDEP. Mr. Richman said work continues on the contaminants, primarily TCE, impacting the groundwater.
Mr. Richman reviewed the topics/presentations on the meeting agenda.

8) Military Munitions Response Program (MMRP) Site Update (PowerPoint slides #9-34)

Mr. Michael Figura explained this program addresses closed ranges where munitions and explosives of concern (MEC) or munitions constituents (MC) remaining could impact the environment. He displayed a map showing the location of all the MMRP sites; he also displayed a larger map in the meeting room. He stated there are two sites at McGuire, two sites at Dix, and six sites at Lakehurst. He reviewed the status of each of the sites and where they are in the environmental restoration process.

Mr. Figura discussed the Former Practice Mortar Range Site located in the western portion of Dix, south of the Dix golf course. He noted the site was divided into two Munition Response Sites (MRSs) — MRS FR004 and MRS FR004a. He advised MRS FR004a was determined to require No Further Action as documented in a 2006 Record of Decision. Mr. Figura reviewed the site history and background for Site FR004, noting it is comprised of two separate areas, with the northern portion occupied by a portion of the golf course, recreational fields and former housing area, and the southern portion being undeveloped. He discussed the Remedial Investigation conducted in 2016 and 2017 at FR004 which found no munition constituents impact, but a potential for munitions and explosives of concern to be present. He stated this led to a remedy of munitions and explosives of concern clearance to be selected for the southern portion of the site. Mr. Figura said field work had begun last fall but stopped due to the government shutdown; re-mobilization is planned for next month.

Mr. Figura next discussed MRS ZZ001 located in a remote section of Lakehurst, where a target in the shape of a German U-boat was used by military aircraft to drop practice of explosive bombs from 1933 to 1945. He stated munitions and explosives of concern and munitions debris have previously been recovered at the site; no munitions constituents were detected in soil or groundwater or detections were below background values and, in some cases, naturally occurring. Mr. Figura displayed photos of recovered items and discussed their disposal. Mr. Figura explained the selected remedy for this site is land use controls, limited vegetation clearance, MEC surface clearance every five years, along with annual inspections and five-year reviews.

Mr. Figura reminded the Board that AFCEC presented information at a recent RAB that a chemical munition was recently discovered at MRS ZZ003, the Lakehurst Proving Grounds Target Areas. He stated the item was discovered during a planned surface clearance at the Lakehurst Test Track Area after several munitions and explosive of concern were identified by contractors and Base Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) over few year period. He advised a 75mm projectile was found in March 2025 which was determined to contain a tear agent; the item has been containerized and stored in a secure holding facility. Mr. Figura said the special Army unit that handles destruction of these types of items will be handling this item in the next few months, similar to the procedures used in handling two chemical munitions previously found at Lakehurst.

Mr. Besselman asked if the tear agent round is explosive. Mr. Figura responded that the item is 100 years old or older so likelihood is low, but a potential still exists. He noted the tear agent is not as significant a hazard as mustard or phosgene which were in the previous items discovered, but all the same safety measures and controls will be taken during disposition. He continued explaining that controls will continue to be in place in the future, including dig permit controls and having UXO technicians sweep the area before digging.

9) PFAS Investigation and Off-Base Drinking Water Update (PowerPoint slides #35-47)

Mr. Richman reviewed the proactive steps being taken by the Air Force to address PFAS associated with mission-related releases to protect human health and ensure access to safe drinking water for the installation and surrounding communities. He noted the investigations and remedial actions follow the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) process. He stated the first priority was drinking water receptors, including sampling and offering mitigation. He summarized work completed to date and planned work to expand upon the completed work. Mr. Richman discussed the evolving drinking water regulations by EPA and NJDEP. He noted that JB MDL on-post drinking water systems meet the current standards.

Mr. Richman reviewed the extensive PFAS mitigation measures taken by the Air Force from 2016 through 2025, both on-base and off-base at impacted properties and at the Manchester Municipal Supply Well #4.

Mr. Richman discussed EPA's maximum contaminant levels (MCLs), noting EPA had issued a final National Primary Drinking Water Rule in April 2024 with MCLs for a number of PFAS compounds. He stated these MCLs are applicable to public water systems, including DoD systems, but not applicable to private drinking water wells.

Mr. Richman reviewed the Air Force's response and mitigation of off-base PFAS-impacted drinking water. He stated bottled water and treatment systems have been supplied, and additional sampling and re-sampling of previously sampled wells is planned for fiscal year 2028. He also discussed the mitigation of Manchester Township Well #4, including temporary measures.

Mr. Richman summarized how the Air Force is prioritizing its response to private drinking water wells. He also displayed maps showing the off-base drinking water focus areas.

Mr. Richman displayed maps showing the different phases of the off-base drinking water investigation and pointed out areas where investigation has been completed and areas where investigation is planned for the future. He discussed the groundwater impacts at McGuire/Dix and Lakehurst. Mr. Richman stated contamination has been detected in surface water. In response to questions from Mr. Bill Friedmann and Ms. Branwen Ellis, Mr. Richman said a work plan will be forthcoming with details on the upcoming work.

Mr. Richman discussed completed and current activities which have included investigations and sampling, as well as community outreach and engagement. He stated additional community engagement is planned to continue to keep the community informed.

Mr. Richman summarized other investigations underway including a background study and a non-AFFF source area due diligence investigation to evaluation other potential sources of PFAS. He displayed maps showing the PFAS sites and groundwater impacts.

Mr. Richman invited questions.

Ms. Frank Storm asked about the multi-million dollar settlement with DuPont and whether any of those funds could be used for the off-base sites. Ms. Kristine Iazzetta of NJDEP said she did not think that would be how the funds can be used, but the decision would be made by the NJDEP Commissioner. Mr. Frank McLaughlin noted he previously worked for NJDEP, and $450 million of the settlement is for natural resource damage and $450 million is to assist municipalities.

A community resident asked about the Plumstead area, and Mr. Richman said the Air Force has been communicating with various towns' officials and keeping them updated. In response to a question about requiring sampling, Mr. Richman said not everyone has agreed to sampling where it has been offered, and the Air Force cannot force them to agree to the sampling.

10) Optimized Remediation Contract (ORC) Update (PowerPoint slides #48-76)

Mr. Niels van Hoesel stated the Optimized Remediation Contract (ORC) was awarded in September 2024 with FPM Remediations as the prime contractor, and Arcadis and EA Engineering as teaming partners. He noted year one of the contract is completed, and year two of the 10-year contract is underway. He added that the contract includes 75 sites—51 at McGuire, 11 at Dix, and 13 at Lakehurst. He displayed a map showing the sites. He also displayed an organizational chart and a list of the key managers from each company.

Mr. van Hoesel reviewed overall project management and regularly scheduled meetings with regulators. He displayed a list of the sites included at McGuire, Dix and Lakehurst.

Mr. Tom Crone gave updates on three sites being supported by Arcadis at McGuire where there are active treatment systems. He first discussed the BOMARC site where two groundwater plumes are present and impacted by TCE, which was commonly used as a degreaser. He explained an air sparge system was installed and began operating in 2020. He stated the system is anticipated to run for up to 100 years, but most of the plume will be eliminated within 10 to 20 years.

Mr. Crone explained how the remediation system works to stop downgradient migration. He displayed graphics showing the two groundwater plumes in 2020 versus 2025 and stated TCE decreases have been detected over the first five years of operation. He noted surface water sampling continues to show little change which is not expected until the clean groundwater reaches Success Branch, which the plan estimated to be 10 to 12 years.

Mr. Crone discussed the path forward which is to continue to operate the air sparge system and perform routine maintenance and monitoring.

Mr. Crone provided an update on TU003, a former gas station where leaks impacted the groundwater. He explained the remedy in place is called Thermal In-Situ Sustainable Remediation or TISR™ which began operating in 2020. He continued explaining that this technology slightly heats up the groundwater to accelerate the remediation through the use of solar panels. Mr. Crone stated general site conditions have significantly improved since the remedy was implemented, and monitoring and annual reporting will continue. He noted site closure is projected for 2032.

Mr. Crone next discussed OU4 Site ST009, where bulk fuel storage tanks have impacted the groundwater. He explained the remedy at this site is natural source zone depletion, active LNAPL skimming in monitoring wells, bioventing, and TISR. He reviewed a graphic showing the progress and noted in 2024 138,610 pounds had been removed which equals 2,722 55-gallon drums; 2025 data is being reviewed. He noted the treatment, monitoring, and reporting will continue.

Ms. Samantha Saalfield provided updates on sites at Lakehurst Areas A/B and C where the objective is site closeout. She reminded the Board that the groundwater pump and treat systems were decommissioned in 2024 and changed in the remedies are being documented in an Explanation of Significant Differences. She said at three sites volatile organic compounds concentrations in the groundwater remain above remedial goals. Ms. Saalfield explained air sparge/soil vapor extraction systems and powdered activated carbon injections are the technologies being relied on now, and it is expected that remedial goals will be achieved within two years of additional injections in 2026.

11) RAB and Public Comments:

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

Mr. Tamn asked how much product is being recovered in one month at the BOMARC site. Mr. Crone said he did not have that information with him but would check on it. Mr. Tamn asked how much product was being put into the ground to remove the product, and Mr. Crone responded that only air is being pushed into the ground.

Mr. Tamn suggested the Air Force consider doing more public relations about the RAB and the remediation work being done, including more news releases. Mr. Storm suggested perhaps the site tour in the summer would attract some additional potential members for the RAB.

12) 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 8:29 PM.