

**MEMORANDUM
CITY OF LANCASTER, CA**

TO: Mayor Parris and City Council Members
FROM: Council Member Marvin Crist
DATE: May 20th, 2010
SUBJECT: **Report on the Activities of the Edwards Air Force Base Restoration
Advisory Board**

Recommendation:

Receive a report of the proceedings and significant issues discussed at the May 20th, 2010 Edwards Air Force Base Restoration Advisory Board meeting in Boron, California.

Background:

The Edwards Air Force Base Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) provides two-way communication between the public and those responsible for environmental clean-up at Edwards AFB. The RAB meets quarterly, and meeting locations rotate between communities bordering the base. The board consists of representatives from the public, federal and state environmental regulatory agencies, the 95th Air Base Wing Vice-Commander, and the base remedial project manager. Organized under federal "Superfund" guidelines, the RAB at Edwards originally formed in 1992 as a Technical Review Committee, and is a key component of public involvement for the installation, allowing members of the public an opportunity to bring concerns or questions to the attention of their community representatives.

The RAB convened and conducted the following environmental restoration actions at the May 20th, 2010, meeting:

- Received a Report on Recent Updates to the Air Force's Compliance Restoration Program. Beginning FY2010-11, the Air Force has authorized use of previously restricted Environmental Restoration Account (ERA) funds to implement Compliance Restoration Program (CRP) activities. ERA will be the sole source of funding for environmental (both restoration and compliance) clean-up in FY 2011. This is significant because until now, the Air Force only funded higher priority CERCLA and Military Munitions Restoration Program (MMRP) projects. No funding was available for smaller scale, lower priority, and localized environmental compliance clean-up sites, such as UST's, OWS's, spills or waste storage sites. With the successful closure of some of the higher priority ERA sites, the Air Force Center for Engineering and the Environment (AFCEE) can now "backfill" with lower priority CRP projects. This change will optimize prioritization and resource allocation, providing consistency through consolidated sampling schedules and methods, and reduced sampling frequency and redundancy.
- Received a Report on Time Critical Removal Action (TCRA). Site 231 (North Base) is under a TCRA for excavation and removal of contaminated soil scheduled to begin this September through October 2010. Required public notification of this TCRA will run in numerous local newspapers, including the Antelope Valley Press on May 28th.

The other items discussed and approved by the RAB were routine. The next regularly scheduled meeting is planned for August 19th, 2010 in Rosamond.