

MEMORANDUM CITY OF LANCASTER, CA

TO: Mayor Parris and City Council Members

FROM: Council Member Ed Sileo

DATE: March 10, 2009

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 February 19, 2009 Edwards Air Force Base Restoration Advisory Board meeting in Boron.

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.

RAB members convened and reviewed the following environmental restoration topics at the February 19, 2009, meeting:

- Federal Register Recommended Updates to the RAB Charter and By-Laws. RAB members voted to accept the Base's proposed new language to the EAFB RAB Charter and By-Laws with some minor revisions (i.e. changing allotted speaker time from 5 minutes to 3 minutes). This new language brings the EAFB RAB into alignment with the over-arching Air Force RAB program.
- Proposed Cleanup Approach for Operable Unit 1 Main Base Flightline. An overview of Operable Unit (OU)1 remedial project timeline included a proposed remedial plan due April of this year and is expected to culminate with a Final Record of Decision (ROD) in May 2010. OU1 is located in the center of EAFB, and is but one of 9 OU's designated at EAFB. The proposed remedial approach will include both active cleanup as well as Land Use Controls (to prevent human contact). Challenges include regulatory concurrence with proposed cleanup approaches and the ability to treat contaminants in underlying fractured granitic bedrock.

The other items discussed and approved by the RAB were routine. The next regularly scheduled meeting is planned for May 21, 2009 in North Edwards.