

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Wurtsmith BCT Meeting**  
**16 June 2021**  
**Teleconference**

Bay West Project No. J150073  
Location: Teleconference

Meeting Date: Wednesday, 16 June 2021  
Meeting Time: 0900-1100 EST

**MEETING ATTENDEES VIA TELECONFERENCE:**

|                       |   |                   |                     |
|-----------------------|---|-------------------|---------------------|
| Catharine Varley, PhD | AFCEC   | Lee Major         | Cherokee Nation     |
| Dan Medina            | AFCEC   | Mark Weegar       | Cherokee Nation     |
| William Farrell       | MDHHS   | Paula Bond        | Aerostar            |
| Puneet Vij            | MDHHS   | Dorin Bogdan      | AECOM               |
| Mounica Nandula       | MDHHS   | Jeremiah Morse    | AECOM               |
| Paul Walz             | Bay West                                      | Saamih Bashir     | Wood                |
| Dirk Pohlmann         | Bay West                                      | Jay Mullet        | Wood                |
| Andrea Stawowy        | Bay West                                      | Jonathan Rivas    | Wood                |
| Ryan Morrish          | Bay West                                      | Dora Chiang       | Wood                |
| Beth Place            | EGLE-RRD - Superfund Section, Lansing         | Ann Person        | EGLE-RRD -Bay City  |
| John Bradley          | EGLE-RRD - Superfund Section, Lansing         | Charlie Bauer     | EGLE-WRD - Bay City |
| Matt Balltuis         | EGLE-RRD - Superfund Section, Lansing         | Amanda Armbruster | EGLE-RRD - Bay City |
| David Kline           | EGLE-RRD - Superfund Section Manager, Lansing |                   |                     |

The meeting was held via Microsoft Teams. The meeting began at 0900 hours EST on 16 June 2021 and adjourned at 1100 EST hours. The meeting agenda is attached and posted to the Bay West Collaborative Website.

**1. Opening Remarks**

C. Varley opened the meeting with a greeting and introductions. C. Varley stated that after the PBR contract R. Morrish and A. Stawowy will be joining the Air Force team as Cherokee Nation employees. They will be the eyes and ears on site and helping the Air Force plan for the future. B. Place commented that she is happy R. Morrish and A. Stawowy will be staying with the project, EGLE is happy with their work. The meeting purpose was to discuss environmental restoration program work at the former Wurtsmith AFB.

**2. Previous 19 May 2021 BCT Review**

- a. 17 March, 28 April and 19 May 2021 meeting minutes are under EGLE review.
  - i. B. Place stated EGLE was waiting to hear if they will receive BCT meeting recordings. C. Varley stated she does not know when she will receive an answer from Air Force management.
- b. Action Items – EGLE
  - i. Review Wurtsmith UFP-QAPP and propose metrics that will be used for data quality assessment should QA/QC samples be collected by EGLE, including reconciliation if the agreed upon data quality metrics are not achieved. Status (summarized below) is unchanged from last month's BCT meeting. Action Item will remain on next month's Agenda.
    1. B. Place agreed to review the QAPP and the split sampling language. B. Place will draft a split sampling procedure for Air Force review and comment. The task is not to revise the QAPP.
    2. B. Place stated this will be addressed during the review of the PFAS RI Draft QAPP.
  - ii. Forward EGLE's responses on reporting Total PFAS for the CTS, MPTS and FT002 SRDs sampling plan changes.

1. There is no update at this time, EGLE will follow up internally after the call.
- iii. Provide the X and Y coordinates for Residential Sampling locations as available.
  1. EGLE will provide coordinates as they are collected in future rounds of sampling. B. Place stated no more sampling will be completed by MDHHS until the next round, they will verify with phones the GPS coordinates on the 20-25 locations. Aerostar has everything to date. Action Item can be removed.
- iv. Provide details on the Statewide sediment study, specifically if biosolids are included.
  1. B. Place provided a sampling plan outline to the Air Force team. Action item can be removed.
- c. Aerostar
  - i. Add line numbers to Draft documents.
    1. Completed. Action item can be removed.
- d. Air Force
  - i. Forward the LF030/31 Compliance Sampling Plan and information to B. Place.
    1. The Compliance Sampling Plan is included as an attachment to the Operations, Maintenance and Monitoring manual. The document is located on the Administrative Record, #420866.
    2. EGLE will download it from the Administrative Record.
  - ii. Management answer if/how data can be provided prior to reports.
    1. Air Force Management has asked what other agencies were providing data prior to reports. Air Force Management has not provided an answer if data can be shared prior to reports. D. Medina asked that EGLE create a list of DOD and Superfund sites that are providing data prior to reports. The topic will be discussed in detail during meetings between the Air Force and EGLE scheduled for next week.
  - iii. Management answer on placing meeting recordings on [Box.com](#).
    1. D. Medina discussed the topic with other BRAC branch chiefs, and normally recordings are not provided. In this case since they are going to be used for meeting review, there is a possibility the recordings might be provided. Air Force legal is reluctant to put the voice recordings the website. B. Place confirmed the recordings would only be used for Meeting Minutes review, there is no way of releasing them to the public. D. Medina stated that the Team has done a very diligent and accurate job taking the minutes. B. Place also stated there is public interest, as they are in the dark while the Air Force and EGLE are in negotiations. D. Medina stated he will continue to address and work with Air Force Management on the issue.
  - iv. Management answer of providing data to EGLE in a useable format.
    1. C. Varley stated there are FOIA concerns from legal. The topic will be added to the Agenda for the meetings between the Air Force and EGLE scheduled for next week. B. Place stated the data would be much easier to review if it was able to be manipulated.
  - v. Management answer on providing PFAS BCT scoping minutes to EGLE in a format where track changes can be used.
    1. Aerostar has added the line items to the meeting minutes. B. Place explained it is very hard to review the meeting minutes, and there is an issue with consistency. It takes longer to review the meeting minutes and costs more. D. Medina commented that there are FOIA issues, and it is something that will be addressed. The Air Force is open to changes and will continue to track the issue.

### 3. DOCUMENT SUBMISSION SCHEDULE AND STATUS

Only documents that have changed status since the previous BCT were discussed.

#### Bay West

- a. Draft-Final 2018 PTS Annual Report – Was submitted on 27 April 2021, and EGLE has requested 45 working days to provide comments, which is approximately 9 weeks. Reviews for some reports will be combined. Comments will be submitted for both the 2018 and 2019 PTS Annual reports next week. The 2019 and 2020 LTM Annual report comments will be combined and submitted this week. The 2019 Systems Annual report comments will be submitted next week.
  - i. M. Weegar stated that in the past, the Air Force and EGLE has agreed to a 45-day comment period, not 45 working days. 45 working days extends the review period out to over 60 days. C. Varley added that that is the longest turn-around-time on any base and acknowledged that there were also delays during the Air Force review. The topic will be discussed next week during the face-to-face meetings. B. Place stated the 45-day review time started when Dave Gibson was the BEC, but when 6 reports are submitted at once, longer review times are necessary. B. Place stated the EGLE hiring freeze is over and she hopes to get another technical review person on the team. AECOM will also start doing report reviews. In the past DLZ reviewed reports that covered legacy compounds, and AECOM took the lead on PFAS reports. Now AECOM will review all reports.

#### Aerostar

Note all dates for document submittals stated on the Agenda are projected dates.

- a. Van Etten Lake at Ken Ratliff Memorial Park IRA Proposed Plan – Currently in Air Force review, anticipate submittal to EGLE soon. Aerostar responded to Air Force legal comments. The Plan will be finalized then a public meeting will be scheduled.
- b. FT002 at Clark's Marsh Interim ROD –Anticipate submittal to EGLE on 30 June 2021. Aerostar received Air Force comments and will be providing responses this week.
- c. RI UFP-QAPP – Estimated RTCs to EGLE on 14 July 2021.
- d. Risk Assessment Work Plan – Under EGLE review.
- e. MPTS Action Memorandum - Estimated EGLE submission in July 2021.
- f. Interim Remedial Action Work Plans for FT002 at Clark's Marsh and Ken Ratliff Memorial Park at Van Etten Lake - estimated EGLE submission in July 2021.
- g. Additional document not listed on the agenda – Addendum to the QAPP for biota Sampling Risk Assessment.
- h. B. Place asked that if the LF030/031 monitoring well sampling for PFAS, that is currently taking place will be used for the RI. EGLE has comments on the QAPP. B. Place asked if the comments should be taken piece by piece, could the monitoring well sampling comments be addressed now and the VAS prior to the start of that field work? P. Bond stated that as of now there is no plan in place, but the data could be used for the RI. P. Bond stated the first step is to sample existing wells. M. Weegar clarified that the sampling that is currently taking place at LF030/031 is being conducted to answer questions on the EWTS discharge. The field crew is following the SAP approved for the SI or ESI. Aerostar developed SOPs as part of the RI work plan, these did not differ from previous sampling events, and there should be no concern. B. Place stated EGLE had comments on the SOPs and wants to make sure good data is collected and understands what is proposed to be used to collect the samples. J. Bradley asked when the SOPS were written, was PFAS in mind. P. Bond responded yes;

the SOPs were drafted with PFAS compounds in mind. A. Stawowy stated that in the past other contractors were able to use and follow the SAP that was in place because it was a blanket, base wide document. P. Bond will review all the comments and state, in writing, which plans and SOPs are being followed. B. Place stated that she would like advance notice prior to sampling and field work. J. Bradley stated he has been in communication with D. Medina and is confident the communication will improve.

#### Bay West Documents to be Submitted.

- a. As stated on the Agenda.

#### 4. FIELD WORK UPDATE AND SCHEDULE

##### Bay West

- a. FT002 Carbon Change out
  - i. The 24<sup>th</sup> GAC changeout is tentatively scheduled for the week of 9 August 2021, dependent upon sampling results.
- b. SS057 RAWP Implementation
  - i. The 4<sup>th</sup> Injection took place this week in the Northern and Middle trenches, only the nitrate was injected as Phosphate was present during the semi-annual sampling completed in April.
- c. FT002 RAWP Implementation
  - i. Field work began on 19 April 2021 and was finished approximately 3 weeks later on 7 May 2021. Most of the work has been completed, the concrete UST and pad were demolished and are being transported to a RCRA Subtitle C Landfill this week. The first injection in all 7 trenches was completed on 11 June 2021. A Draft RA-C Report will be completed and submitted to the Air Force in August 2021.
  - ii. B. Place stated there is some data EGLE would like to receive prior to the report. She asked if the Water Resources team had requested Nitrate and Phosphate sampling at the PTSs downgradient of the injection area. A. Stawowy reminded the Team that the site was being sampled and operated so nitrate or phosphate would not travel outside of the performance monitoring area. D. Pohlmann agreed that the nitrate and phosphate sampling at the sites is being managed so both nitrate and phosphate do not travel to the purge wells. There are O&M management practices in place with the objective of preventing nitrate and phosphate from moving out of the targeted IAB treatment area. B. Place asked how long it would take for the nitrate and phosphate to reach the purge wells? D. Pohlmann stated at SS057 it would take years. The nitrate will travel faster than the VOCs, but the intent is that it be consumed before it exits the treatment area.
- d. 2021 RA-O groundwater monitoring and annual base-wide gauging event will be completed by the follow-on Contractor.
- e. Bay West will perform treatment system sampling through 26 June 2021 at FT002 and LF030/31.
  - i. J. Mullet stated that they are under contract, and they will be starting field work with the annual sampling following the Bay West QAPP. Wood will be drafting a QAPP addendum and taking over after Bay West's contract ends on 27 June 2021.

##### Bay West/Wood

- f. VIAP Update
  - i. Already discussed. Field work is complete, and the Draft report will be submitted to the Air Force in June 2021.

- ii. B. Place asked that Wood documents be added to the same location as the Aerostar and Bay West on Box.com. Currently after 45 days documents expire and can no longer be accessed. S. Bashir will work with the Air Force, so documents are available for longer periods of time.

## Aerostar

- g. Central Treatment System (CTS) Status
  - i. P. Bond stated continued regular O&M is ongoing.
  - ii. Effluent results remain below SRD criteria.
  - iii. Currently the CTS is down, it has been off since Saturday, 12 June 2021. The VFD was struck by lightning. The new VFD should arrive and be installed this week, and the system restarted. C. Bauer asked that when the system is down, do the purge wells pump? P. Bond stated there is no discharge when the system is down. When the system is down the wells and system are all off. B. Place stated that Air Force did notify EGLE that the system was down. C. Bauer asked that for any SRD related issues M. Siler should be copied on the emails.
- h. Mission Pump and Treatment System (MPTS) Status
  - i. P. Bond stated continued regular O&M is ongoing.
  - ii. Effluent results remain below SRD criteria.
- i. PFAS Remedial Investigation Status
  - i. P. Bond stated that the PFAS schedule has been updated and the RI RTC are expected to be completed by the end of July 2021. The RI field work is also scheduled to begin the end of July 2021. Currently a team is in the field sampling LF030/031 existing monitoring wells, they should be completed on Saturday. B. Place requested the updated schedule be sent to EGLE. In addition to SOP and field documents, EGLE would also like to see the daily reports and field notes. C. Varley stated the topic would be discussed with Air Force legal. M. Weegar asked if there was a drop-dead date, that if field work has not started then it would be pushed to the next season? P. Bond stated that the first step is to sample existing wells, then evaluate the data, complete VAS, followed by permanent well installation. The original plan for a drop dead-dead field work start date was 30 September 2021, but it is possible to extend the date and work through the winter. Currently there are 300-350 existing wells scheduled to be sampled. B. Place requested the comments be evaluated in a step wise fashion.

## 5. AIR FORCE UPDATES

- a. PFAS Investigations
  - i. MOU between Air Force and USFS
    - 1. C. Varley stated the MOU is still in negotiations between Air Force and USFS leadership. M. Weegar explained that USFS has provided responses to the Air Force drafted MOU which strikes the Air Force's lead agency authority under CERCLA to conduct response actions on USFS property. The heart of the matter is who is the lead agency for the property, USFS or Air Force.
  - ii. Remedial Investigation field work status and path.
    - 1. At the EWTS, the letter the Air Force received from EGLE sparked the current sampling event. C. Varley stated there will be a site evaluation for all the contaminants, the site will be evaluated holistically.

2. B. Place asked if the RTCs are moving forward on LF030/31, what is the plan? C. Varley stated that all that is being done at present is well redevelopment. B. Place asked what SOP Aerostar is working under because EGLE had comments on the SOPs. EGLE needs to know what plan the work is being done under, it needs to be documented what plan is used in support of the work and how the work is completed. EGLE needs this information provided in writing. C. Varley stated the Bay West QAPP has been approved and data collected could still be used in the RI. P. Bond stated field work should not stop because of comments that need to be resolved. B. Place stated that EGLE would approve if the Bay West QAPP is followed. P. Bond will put it all in writing.
- iii. Research Projects/Demonstrations/Pilots
  1. C. Varley stated that nothing has taken root yet. The topic will remain on the agenda to keep the team up to date. J. Bradley stated the different projects could be discussed at the face-to-face meetings next week.
- iv. FS for PFAS
  1. B. Place asked if there was a timeline for the FS. C. Varley explained that the first step is collecting the RI data. B. Place questioned if the RI is scheduled to be completed in 2023, then will the FS follow it? C. Varley stated that the RI field work is scheduled to start this season and could always require a subsequent data gap investigation. The Air Force needs to be confident in the tools they use to remediate the contamination, dig and haul, diffraction, enzyme studies, etc. The FS will probably take place in the 2023 to 2025 timeframe, not every site will be 100% ready for the FS phase at the same point in time.
- b. Other OWAA 10 parcels
  - i. C. Varley stated the Air Force is working on the transfer paperwork. At LF030/031, areas 1 & 2 are not able to be transferred at this time. Documents are being updated where remediation is ongoing. B. Place asked for a timeline of when the first DRC would be ready for review. The Air Force does not have a timeline.
- c. RAB Update – scheduled for 21 July 2021.
  - i. C. Varley is working on the agenda, it will be ready for distribution soon. The meeting will be held virtually, even though Mark Henry prefers in person. Agenda topics will include CTI/Wood providing a high-level overview of the BECOS contract and Aerostar sharing an update on the RI/IRA schedule.
- d. Oscoda Township Stormwater discharge fee
  - i. D. Medina sent a letter to Oscoda Township that incorporates what is appropriate from the legal standpoint and the Air Force’s engineering contractor’s evaluation. The Township has not responded to the letter, the topic will be discussed during the face-to-face meeting that is scheduled on 22 June 2021.
- e. EWTS update
  - i. The Air Force has drafted a response to J. Bradley’s letter dated 19 February 2021, Request for PFAS Inclusion in WAFB LF030/031 EWTS Performance Monitoring Analytical, the response is under Air Force legal review. B. Place asked if the Air Force will be waiting for the results from the additional sampling before the letter is sent. C. Varley’s plan was to send the letter without the data.
- f. IRA between MPTS and FT002.
  - i. A response to EGLE’s request for an additional IRA is under review by Air Force management.

- g. Follow on contractor update.
  - i. C. Varley stated the CTI/Wood team would be on site next week to discuss the plan.
- h. Vapor Intrusion
  - i. The report will include all the data and the Draft version will be submitted to the Air Force in June 2021.
  - ii. B. Place was in contact with G. Kellen, he commented Wood requested access to a VI area. B. Place asked if any additional sampling was scheduled. S. Bashir stated no additional samples have been collected. When sampling is scheduled EGLE will be notified in advance when the schedule is known.
  - iii. J. Mullet asked how much notice would EGLE like? B. Place responded that 2 weeks would be enough. However, please let EGLE know when the schedule is known. S. Bashir noted that the base wide annual sampling event is scheduled to begin 19 July 2021.
  - iv. B. Place informed the group that EGLE has contacted Gary Kellen about approaching the building tenants about conducting building surveys. Outdoor air samples were above the screening levels, and EGLE would like Air Force to act quickly. MDHHS has concerns about potential chemical exposure. S. Bashir stated that the tenants are not complying with MIOSHA indoor air sampling protocol.

## 6. EGLE RRD – SUPERFUND SECTION UPDATES

- a. RAB Topics
  - i. Already discussed.
- b. BCT agenda
  - i. B. Place appreciated the Air Force incorporating her comments, if time allows, she will continue to comment on future agendas.
- c. Document tracker
  - i. B. Place commented that in the past EGLE received a table with Bay West documents, EGLE would like to receive the updated document list. C. Varley will communicate with Wood, she has been using the BCT meeting minutes to track the documents.
- d. Box.com organization and format
  - i. B. Place commented it would be helpful if all Air Force contractors used the same site. It would be helpful if when setting it up, to think about the user.
- e. Data/information requests
  - i. Already discussed.
- f. Notification of sample collection, field work, decisions
  - i. Already discussed.
- g. Clark's Marsh Purdue Study and data sharing
  - i. C. Varley stated that Purdue gave the USFS data, and has approached the Air Force, but has not provided the Air Force with any data.
- h. Meetings Scheduled
  - i. PFAS Coordination call scheduled for today, 16 June 2021.
  - ii. NOW meeting scheduled for 14 July 2021, MPART will participate.
  - iii. Townhall scheduled for 20 July 2021, it will be a virtual meeting.

## 7. EGLE RRD – BAY CITY DISTRICT UPDATES

- a. Oscoda area sampling

- i. A. Armbruster informed the group AECOM will be conducting a quarterly sampling event in July 2021.

## **8. EGLE WRD – UPDATES**

- a. Surface water/fish sampling in area
  - i. No update.
- b. Oscoda Township Wastewater Treatment Plant update.
  - i. C. Bauer stated that the collection system sampling is on-going, some data has been received and more sampling and evaluation is planned.
  - ii. B. Place stated the recent results of the Oscoda Plume Study have been forwarded to Air Force, the results are not public.
- c. Sediment Sampling
  - i. Already discussed.
- d. Water Quality Standards are being updated.
  - i. EGLE is in the process of evaluating the PFAS Water Quality Standards, an update will be provided in July 2021.

## **9. MDHHS UPDATES**

- a. Residential Well sampling update
  - i. P. Vij stated the second round of residential drinking water sampling started the first week of May 2021 and is still in progress.
- b. Health advisory updates
  - i. B. Place indicated there will be a press release in July, and the Do Not Eat Deer advisory will be updated. C. Varley asked how the advisory was changing? P. Vij replied that the 5 mile do not eat deer advisory was changing to 3 miles.
- c. Nitrate sampling in private wells
  - i. M. Weegar noted that he had previously asked MDHHS about including nitrate analysis in the private well samplings and referenced a news article he had forwarded to B. Place, where as part of a study of private wells on Cape Cod, wells with elevated PFAS concentrations also had elevated nitrate concentrations. The news article indicated the study concluded the elevated PFAS concentrations in the wells were likely attributed to septic tank discharges. It would seem that impacts on private wells from septic systems would be important. P. Vij stated that nitrate is being collected as one of multiple parameters for water quality parameters to check values pre and post filter. M. Weegar asked if the nitrate/nitrite was elevated in a well would the septic be looked at, or would the data only be used to see if the filter was working properly? Per MDHHS's data quality objectives, the general chemistry analysis will be used to assess filter efficacy. B. Place stated if Air Force plans to use the data to interpret the nitrate/nitrite, it is secondary data and its use for this will need to be evaluated.

## **10. Next Meetings:**

- a. BCT – 28 July, 25 August and 22 September 2021 0900-1100 EST
- b. Townhall – 20 July 2021
- c. RAB – 21 July 2021

## **11. ACTION ITEMS:**

- a. EGLE



- i. B. Place will review the Wurtsmith UFP-QAPP and propose metrics for assessing data quality for split samples and corrective actions if metrics are not met.
    - ii. Provide EGLE's response on reporting Total PFAS for the CTS, MTPS, and FT002 SRDs sampling plan changes.
    - iii. Provide list of other superfund projects that are providing data prior to reports.
- b. Air Force
  - i. Follow up with management regarding the placement of meeting recordings on Box.com.
  - ii. Check with management about providing field documents and daily field notes to EGLE.
- c. Aerostar
  - i. Provide EGLE the update PFAS RI schedule.
  - ii. State in writing what SOPs will be used for the current sampling at LF030/031.