

Meeting Minutes
Wurtsmith BCT Meeting
27 October 2021
Teleconference

Contract No. LCES20S003
Location: Teams Call

Meeting Date: Wednesday, 27 October 2021
Meeting Time: 0900-1140 EST

MEETING ATENDEES:

Teleconference

Catharine Varley, PhD	AFCEC	Beth Place	EGLE-RRD - Superfund
Steven Willis	AFCEC	Matt Baltusis	EGLE-RRD - Superfund
Jay Mullett	Wood	Nick Shorkey	EGLE-RRD - Superfund
Saamih Bashir	Wood	John Bradley	EGLE-RRD - Superfund
Wendi Michael	Wood	David Kline	EGLE-RRD - Superfund
Justin Gal	Wood	Charlie Bauer	EGLE-WRD - Bay City
Jonathan Rivas	Wood	Amanda Armbruster	EGLE-RRD - Bay City
Nick Robb	CTI	Ann Person	EGLE-RRD - Bay City
Nick Butzin	CTI	Andrea Keatley	MDHHS
Mark Weegar	Cherokee Nation	Puneet Vij	MDHHS
Lee Major	Cherokee Nation	Mounica Nandula	MDHHS
Andrea Stawowy	Cherokee Nation	Jeremiah Morse	AECOM
Ryan Morrish	Cherokee Nation	Dorin Bogdan	AECOM
Paula Bond	Aerostar		
Paul Walz	Bay West		

Note:

AFCEC: Air Force Civil Engineer Center
EGLE: Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy
MDHHS: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
RRD: Remediation and Redevelopment Division
WRD: Water Resources Division

The Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Cleanup Team (BCT) meeting was held via teleconference. The meeting began at 0900 hours eastern standard time (EST) on 27 October 2021 and adjourned at 1140 hours EST. The Meeting agenda is attached.

1. Opening Remarks/General Discussion

- a. J. Mullett opened the meeting with a greeting and introductions. The meeting purpose was to discuss environmental restoration program work at the former Wurtsmith Air Force Base (AFB).

2. United States Air Force (USAF) Updates

- a. **USAF- Items being worked, priorities, upcoming meetings**

- i. S. Willis stated the Air Force has sent out a response letter to EGLE earlier in the week regarding the inspection of the Pump and Treatment systems (PTS).
- ii. S. Willis provided an update regarding the Time Critical Removal Action (TCRA) and Interim Remedial Action (IRA) for PFAS regarding the excavation at FT002. C. Varley stated that the Air Force is making significant progress in soil removal at FT002 with 93 truckloads removing 4,500 tons of soil.
- iii. S. Willis added there is an upcoming RAB meeting on 17 November 2021, being held at the Methodist Church in Oscoda MI. The EGLE MPART Town Hall will take place 3 November 2021 and will be virtual.
- iv. S. Willis asked if B. Place had access to ERPIMS. B. Place stated that she was able to login with the password and username. John Bradley asked if additional people could be given access to ERPIMS.

b. Wood/CTI – BECOS (Fieldwork and Documents)

- i. J. Mullett stated that routine operations and maintenance (O&M) and sampling has been taking place at all the PTS in accordance with the SRD's. Line jetting took place on 14 September 2021, the primary conveyance line from the Benzene Purge wells to the Central Treatment System (CTS) was cleared to increase the flow into the CTS.
- ii. J. Mullett stated that trees were removed around Pond 1 at the Engineered Wetland Treatment System (EWTS). J. Mullett stated that Wood/CTI is anticipating a carbon changeout to take place at the FT002 PTS on 16 November 2021. Wood/CTI is also scheduled to perform a carbon changeout at the CTS the first week of December 2021. A resin changeout at the Mission Pump and Treatment facility is proposed to happen late December 2021 to early January 2022 pending data review.
- iii. J. Mullett stated that all systems have remained below criteria and in accordance with the SRDs with the exception of the iron and manganese from water samples collected from MH4 at the EWTS. J. Mullett added that EGLE has been notified of these exceedances and subsequently, the first set of downgradient compliance monitoring wells were sampled, and the results were non-detect for iron and manganese. J. Mullett stated that the QAPP will propose changing the effluent sampling compliance point.
- iv. B. Place asked if she will be receiving the monthly results from the treatment systems. J. Mullett stated that Wood is waiting for approval from the Air Force to share the Monthly Technical Status Reports. A formal response from the Air Force will be sent to EGLE regarding the documents that EGLE requested. This response is forthcoming.
- v. J. Mullett stated that the Annual sampling event was completed the end of September 2021. The 2021 event was completed following the approved 2019 sampling plan. Wood is currently compiling all the data and expects to have the annual report ready to submit by early 2022. J. Mullett stated that Wood is expected to be submitting the QAPP to the Air Force this week and that EGLE can expect it to be submitted to them around late December 2021 or early January 2022. J. Mullett stated the Annual RA-O report will be to EGLE around March or April 2022.

- vi. J. Mullett stated that the Land Use Control (LUC) inspections will be completed by the end of November 2021. J. Mullett stated that non routine O&M will be happening in November 2021. This includes additional pump and well maintenance that will happen to prep for the 2021 annual well gauging event. J. Mullett stated that the 2021 annual gauging event is scheduled for the week of 29 November 2021. J. Mullett stated that an email regarding when the field work will commence will be sent to EGLE prior to mobilization. Field activities will also be included on the shared calendar. EGLE requested that the SP calendar is not the sole source of
 - vii. BCT meeting minutes for 28 July, and 7 September 2021 meetings are under EGLE review. EGLE recently received access to the recordings. B. Place stated the community is upset they do not have access to the BCT meeting minutes. B. Place added in the past more of a summary style format had been considered which would focus more on decisions made as well as action items, opposed to a more detailed discussion format, but the community did not agree. This discrepancy has made the format a hybrid of the two formats. B. Place stated if EGLE and the Air Force have disagreements on what should or should not be included in the meeting minutes and the Air force moves forward with finalization, EGLE will note the minutes as “Did not include all of EGLE comments” when posted to MPART website. S. Willis Stated the Air Force will provide a summary to EGLE and the community regarding the format of the Meeting minutes moving forward. M. Weegar stated the decision of the Air Force to more of a summary format was based upon advice from Air Force attorneys.
- c. Bay West – (PBR Documents only)**
- i. **SS017 Closure Memorandum** – P. Walz stated the Air Force provided comments and requested additional information. Bay West has provided additional text as well as responded to comments. This document is currently under Air Force review.
 - ii. **Annual Reports** – P. Walz stated that Bay West has received comments from EGLE on all 5 reports and Bay West has sent RTC’s back to EGLE on 5 October 2021.
 - iii. **5 Year Review** – P. Walz stated it remains under Air Force review. S. Willis added it should be back to Bay West in November 2021.
 - iv. **2019 LUC Report** – P. Walz stated it has been final for a couple months and recommended it be removed from the Document Tracker.
 - v. **2020 LUC Report** – P. Walz stated it is under Air Force review.
 - vi. **Draft Volatilization-to-Indoor Air Pathway Remedial Investigation Addendum Report** – S. Willis stated the Air Force currently has this document and has reviewed it. The Air Force is in the process of writing comments and will be sending it back it early November 2021.

- a. P. Vij asked about the chemical inventory/building survey of the buildings where the VI investigation is being conducted. B. Place stated she will resend EGLE's request for the building survey. P. Vij stated that MDHHS is working on sending a recommendation letter for sub-slab sampling at the buildings where soil gas exceeded the site-specific residential screening criteria. The letter is expected to be sent to the Air Force in November 2021.

- vii. **2020 Draft Annual RA-O Report for FT002, LF30/31 and SS057** - P. Walz stated it was submitted to the Air Force on 22 October 2021 and is currently under Air Force review.

- viii. **2020 Draft Annual RA-O Report for Arrow St, Benzene Plant and Mission St PTS** – P. Walz stated it is on schedule to be submitted to the Air Force in November 2021.

- ix. **Draft FT002 RAC Report** – P. Walz stated it was submitted to EGLE on 26 October 2021.

- x. **Draft FT002 UST Removal Tech Memo** – P. Walz stated it is under Air Force review.

- xi. **Draft SS072 Revised Risk Assessment** – P. Walz stated it was submitted to the Air Force last month (27 September 2021) and is currently under Air Force review.

- xii. **Draft SS072 Updated FS** – P. Walz stated that the updated FS will be submitted to the Air Force in November 2021.

- d. **FPM** –
 - i. **Explanation of Significant Difference (ESD) for LF030/031 LNAPL Area** – The draft ESD was submitted to EGLE for review on 16 July 2021. B. Place stated that the document is under EGLE review and comments will be submitted within the next two weeks.

- e. **Aerostar – PFAS RI and Interim Remedial Action (IRA)**
 - i. **RI UFP-QAPP** – P. Bond stated they have received comments from EGLE and have posted the Master Comment Response Spreadsheet on Box.com. EGLE is currently reviewing the comments.

 - ii. **Van Etten Lake at Ken Ratliff Memorial Park Proposed Plan** – P. Bond stated it was finalized.

 - iii. **Van Etten Lake at Ken Ratliff Memorial Park Record of Decision** – P. Bond stated it has been submitted to the Air Force and is under review.

 - iv. **FT002 at Clarks Marsh Proposed Plan** - P. Bond stated it was finalized.

 - v. **FT002 at Clarks Marsh Record of Decision** - P. Bond stated it was finalized.

- vi. **Risk Assessment Work Plan** – P. Bond stated the Air Force has EGLE comments and is currently responding to those comments. P. Bond stated that the response to comments should be submitted in the next few weeks.
- vii. **Risk Assessment UFP-QAPP Addendum** – P. Bond stated that Aerostar is actively working to get it submitted to the Air Force.
- viii. **Remedial Action Work Plan for FT002 at Clarks Marsh** - P. Bond stated it was finalized.
 - a. B. Place stated there are still unresolved comments on the Remedial Action Work Plan at Clark’s Marsh and EGLE would like to know how those comments will be addressed. C. Varley stated the Air Force does not have an agreement with the US Forest Service (USFS) and may not have an agreement in the future to access USFS lands. B. Place stated that most of the comments that still need to be resolved are on OWAA Property and EGLE’s understanding is that Aerostar would be submitting a request to the Michigan Natural Features Inventory (MNFI) on only the area of clarks marsh for a list of threatened and endangered species, but the Remedial Action Work plan contains a list of threatened and endangered species for the entire site. P. Bond stated that Aerostar has contacted the MNFI and requested that information for only the area around clarks marsh where Aerostar will be working, and Aerostar plans to send that information to EGLE. B. Place stated EGLE needs documentation on what was requested, and what was received from Michigan Natural Features Inventory as well as how the monitoring will be addressed in the Remedial Action Workplan. P. Bond Stated she will forward MNFI documentation. How the monitoring will be addressed is going to require further discussion between Aerostar and EGLE. B. Blace stated EGLE will need to know how the survey will be performed, as well as what will occur if Aerostar comes across the showy Orchis. EGLE would like this information clearly outlined in the workplan.
- ix. **Remedial Action Work Plan Van Etten Lake at Ken Ratliff Memorial Park** – P. Bond stated it is under Air Force review.
- x. **Time Critical Removal Action** – P. Bond stated Aerostar prepared an Action Memorandum (AM) that is currently under Air Force review. Once comments are received from Air Force legal, the AM will be finalized and placed on the AR for public comment. B. Place Stated it was EGLE’s understanding that they would be involved to include providing ARAR’s and would like to determine how that will occur in the future. B. Blace added this has been a topic of discussion during management calls and would be forwarded to EGLE’s state attorney.
- xi. **Field Work** –
 - a. P. Bond provided an update on the PFAS RI field work per the shared calendar. P. Bond stated that the VAS sampling was behind schedule due to the bromide

tracer evaluation and that the Geoprobe rig will be used instead of the sonic rig going forward to eliminate the need to use the bromide tracer. EGLE disagrees that the bromide tracer was the issue with delays in field work. EGLE requested references.

- b. B. Place stated EGLE had reports that Aerostar was anywhere from 5 to 50 feet from the sanitary sewer while conducting soil sampling. P. Bond stated that Aerostar hasn't begun sampling along the sanitary sewer. P. Bond added she will investigate it and confirm. B. Place asked if EGLE is correct in understanding that some Geoprobe samples have been collected in which the clay layer has been reached and Aerostar will revisit some of these locations to confirm with the sonic rig. B. Place replied no, Aerostar has reached the clay in every Geoprobe boring conducted. B. Place added in some areas geologic data is utilized to determine clay depth and in other areas initial pilot borings are used to determine clay depth. No agreements were reached that affects the planned RI field work. It was suggested by J. Bradley that a follow-up systematic project planning meeting be scheduled to discuss and resolve EGLE's comments and concerns.
- c. EGLE requested updated chembox figures in the form of holistic data including new criteria for PFAS. C. Varley stated she will review what figures are provided in the memo for records.

f. **EGLE/MDHHS Updates**

- i. **EGLE RRD – Superfund Section Updates** – B. Place stated there will be an MPART Town Hall meeting on 3 November 2021. B. Place stated there will be a Need Our Water (NOW) group meeting on 8 November 2021. B. Place stated that Governor Whitmer will be meeting with NOW in Oscoda. B. Place stated EGLE had received an email from the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) regarding access agreements for installing monitoring wells in the AuSable National Forest. C. Varley replied it was for the scoping of the MMRP project. B. Place stated it was EGLE's understanding that there was an issue with signing a permit or land use agreement for the ongoing monitoring well discussion which is part of the RI. C. Varley stated the issue B. Place may be referring to could be a right of entry through Aerostar that has not yet taken place. S. Willis stated they are still working on the contract and the scope of work for that event. S. Willis added they plan on conducting a site visit to give the contractors a chance to put together bids. B. Place asked if EGLE would be invited out for that site visit. S. Willis replied yes. B. Place stated EGLE believes the issue was the contractors would not sign access agreement for liability and EGLE is under the impression that it pertained to the Monitoring wells on state land. P. Bond replied Aerostar to her knowledge has not contacted anyone from the state.
- ii. **EGLE – Bay City District Updates** – A. Armbruster stated the last quarterly sampling event for Oscoda area sites was completed the week of 11 October 2021 and they are still waiting on that data to come in. The July 2021 data is in, and AECOM generated some figures for each of the areas that were sampled and a summary table that compiles data from October 2019 to present for all the quarterly

monitoring events. Those figures and tables will be posted on the MPART website prior to the 3 November 2021 MPART Town Hall meeting.

- iii. **EGLE WRD Updates – SRD sampling plan, upcoming site visits** – C. Bauer stated that Tarek Buckmaster sent an e mail to C. Varley regarding the proposed revisions to the sampling plan. C. Bauer commented EGLE’s official response to the updated SRD sampling plans should be sent shortly.
 - iv. **MDHHS Updates – Fieldwork and new data** – V. Puneet stated that round 2 of resampling is complete. There were 280 total samples collected, and out of the 280, there were 147 non-detects and 133 detections. Of the 133 detections, there were 19 that exceeded the MDHHS comparison values.
- g. **Outstanding BCT Action Items – EGLE**
- I. **Status of letter that includes list of superfund projects to provide EGLE data prior to reports** – J. Mullett stated the letter was not submitted and will continue to be an action item.
 - II. **Status of letter that includes list of documents that EGLE would like to review** – S. Willis stated they do have a list but are waiting on a formal request letter from EGLE.
 - III. **Status of EGLE’s interpretation of MI FOIA law vs Federal FOIA law** – B. Place stated that EGLE’s Department of Attorney General is working on it but is not expected to be completed soon.
 - IV. **Did EGLE send an example site management plan** – B. Place stated yes and there was talk of a Wurtsmith specific management plan, but it is low on EGLE’s priority list. B. Place stated that a past management plan should be available to serve as an example. J. Mullett replied Wood will verify with the Air Force if they have it and get back to EGLE.
 - V. **Matt Siler to provide well construction and information on monitoring wells located around WWTP** – C. Bauer stated that M. Siler has not provided that information but has followed up with the WWTP and plans to forward that information to C. Varley soon.
- h. **Outstanding BCT Action Items - AF**
- I. **Updated Tracker for Documents** – J. Mullett stated that it was updated with the proposed EGLE review dates. J. Mullett added that proposed review dates need to be added into Aerostar’s tracker.
 - II. **Create a fieldwork schedule to share with the team** – Action ongoing – accessible on Aerostar website.

- III. **Status on weekly fieldwork updates** – J. Mullett stated that Wood provided weekly field updates on the last annual sampling event and will continue to provide updates on similar events. P. Bond stated that Aerostar is currently sending out weekly field updates on the RI field work and will continue to do so. J. Mullett stated this action item will be listed as complete.

- IV. **S. Willis to contact AF CO regarding sharing data with EGLE prior to reports submittal as well as listing data and the other documents EGLE is requesting - S.** Willis stated he showed EGLE what the letter to the EO should look like and B. Place mentioned they will submit the formal letter to the AF CO. J. Mullett stated this will be listed as complete.

i. **Action Items from this Meeting –**

- I. S. Willis to request EGLE look at ERPIMS and make sure it is applicable for what they are looking for.
- II. AF to add proposed EGLE review dates to Aerostar Document Tracker tab.
- III. Wood to send out additional SharePoint access to EGLE team members as soon as possible.
- IV. V. Puneet to send a letter to the Air Force in reference to conducting a sub-slab sampling following the VI work.
- V. B. Place to send out press release to the Air Force for the 3 November 2021 Town Hall meeting.
- VI. S. Willis to send a list to EGLE of the MMRP documents that were identified in the documentation sent to the Army Corp of Engineers so they can download historical data from the AR.
- VII. P. Bond to send B. Place information on the request and response back from the MNFI for Clark's Marsh IRA.
- VIII. B. Place to resend email requesting subslab sampling inside buildings where outdoor soil gas samples exceeded Nonresidential SSVIAC and building surveys..
- IX. C. Varley to send white paper regarding the lysimeter study to B. Place. Sent on October 27, 2021.

j. **Next Meeting** – Scheduled 1 December 2021. Proposed 19 January 2021.