



ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION

U.S. Army Environmental Center

INVOLVING REGULATORY AGENCIES AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES IN THE ARMY RESTORATION PLANNING PROCESS

When the Army involves stakeholders such as regulatory agencies and the local community in planning restoration activities, everyone benefits.

The Army benefits by gaining the trust and support of stakeholders for its cleanup efforts, resulting in a smoother process with fewer delays.

Regulatory agencies, such as the EPA, tribal and state agencies, gain by having an opportunity to influence cleanup goals and direction before critical decisions are made.

Communities benefit by being able to provide input that will ideally lead to a cleanup that meets their needs.

Keys to Army Planning

- **IAPs/BCPs.** The planning process begins at the installation level where Installation Action Plans (IAPs) and Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Cleanup Plans (BCPs) are developed. These documents are key to the management and execution of Army restoration programs and provide information on each site projecting future response actions and costs.
- **Work Plans.** Annual obligation and work plans detail restoration projects and funding requirements for the upcoming year.
- **Sequencing Work.** Priority and sequence of activities are determined by the results of Relative Risk Site Evaluations (RRSE) and other management factors such as executability and community acceptance. At BRAC installations, reuse is the primary consideration in sequencing activities.

RABs as a Forum

- A key forum for cooperative planning is the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB). The RAB typically includes as members all stakeholders who would have an interest in restoration program planning. Through the RAB, the installation should discuss options, propose plans, receive input for consideration by decision makers, and convey decisions made.
- At installations without RABs, the remedial project managers from the installation, EPA and state should be involved in the planning.

Installations should involve stakeholders as early in the planning process as possible. Updating IAPs/BCPs, developing obligation and work plans, and sequencing activities using relative risk/reuse present opportunities for planning input to stakeholders.



Involve Your Stakeholders

When involving stakeholders in the planning process, an installation should:

1. Explain the RRSE process and its use to stakeholders and invite them to participate in the evaluation process or update. Ensure that results and supporting information are available for review.

Tool: [Relative Risk Primer](#)

2. Explain the content and purpose of IAPs/BCPs to stakeholders and invite them to participate in its preparation/update. Stakeholder input should be considered seriously, and rationale for any input not accepted should be made clear.

Tool: [IAP Guidance/BCP Guidebook](#)

3. Invite stakeholders to participate in identification of requirements and project planning. The focus should be on the objectives, scope, priority and sequencing of projects. Estimated costs should be discussed, and expected funding and funding constraints should be candidly presented.

Tool: [IAP Guidance/BCP Guidebook](#)

4. Submit to state agencies, as part of the Defense State Memorandum of Agreement/Cooperative Agreement (DSMOA/CA) process, anticipated activities for future years.

Tool: [DSMOA/CA Guide](#)

5. Communicate to stakeholders adjustments to budget allocations and project requirements made during the year by Congressional action, higher headquarters, or new data. As appropriate, stakeholders should be given opportunities to provide input when priorities are adjusted due to changes in funding availability.

Tool: [RAB Meetings](#)

Tools for Involving Stakeholder Participation

DoD Relative Risk Site Evaluation Primer. Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Environmental Security). 1997. www.dtic.mil/envirodod/rellrisk/rellrisk/html.

Installation Restoration Program Action Plan Guidance. U.S. Army Environmental Center. January 1999. www.denix.osd.mil/denix/public/policy/policy.html.

BRAC Cleanup Plan (BCP) Guidebook. Department of Defense. Washington DC. Fall, 1996. www.dtic.mil/envirodod/brac/toc.html

Working Together to Achieve Cleanup: A Guide to the Cooperative Agreement Process. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. August 1999. <http://hq.environmental.usace.army.mil/programs/dsmoa/dsmoaagree/dsmoaagree.html>.

Installation Restoration Program Management Plan. U.S. Army Environmental Center. March 1999. www.denix.osd.mil/denix/public/policy/policy.html.

Base Realignment and Closure Environmental Restoration Program Management Plan. U.S. Army Environmental Center. April 1999. www.denix.osd.mil/denix/public/policy/policy.html.

More Information

For more information on involving stakeholders in your restoration program, contact the U.S. Army Environmental Center, Environmental Restoration Division at (410) 436-3240 or visit USAEC's Web site at <http://aec.army.mil>.