



Restoration Advisory Boards (RABs)

5 December 2007

Our Mission: Provide installations that enable Soldier and Family readiness, and provide a quality of life that matches the quality of service they provide to the Nation

Leading Change for Installation Excellence



Objectives

1. Define what a RAB is
2. RAB's purpose
3. DoD RAB Rule/Army RAB/Technical Assistance for Public Participation (TAPP) Guidance requirements.....
 - for establishing a RAB
 - for dissolving a RAB
 - for adjourning a RAB
 - for re-solicitation of community interest
4. Funding/Program Issues
5. Summary



What is a RAB...

- **Jointly chaired by installation and community**
- **Representatives of community, installation, and regulatory agencies**
- **Not a decision making body**
- **Provide advice**



Purpose of a RAB

- **Opportunity for stakeholder involvement concerning environmental restoration activities**
- **Forum for discussion and continued exchange of environmental restoration information between installations, regulatory agencies, tribes and the community**
- **Opportunity for RAB members to review, participate, discuss, and provide comments and advice to the installation's decision makers concerning environmental restoration issues**
- **Forum for addressing issues associated with environmental restoration**



DoD RAB Rule

- **71 Federal Register 27610 (May 12, 2006)**
- **Technical correction at 71 Federal Register 30719 (May 30, 2006)**
- **RAB Rule addresses the establishment, characteristics, composition, and funding of RABs**
- **<https://www.denix.osd.mil/denix/Public/News/OSD/RAB/rabrule.html>**



US Army RAB/TAPP Oct 2005 Guidance

- **Updates Army 1998 RAB/TAPP Guidance**
- **Based on the DoD DERP Management Guidance, 2001**
- **Incorporated Dissolution of a RAB based on final DoD RAB Rule**
- **<http://aec.army.mil/usaec/cleanup/rab-tapp.pdf>**



RAB Establishment – must have active installation restoration program or munitions response program, sustained community interest and at least one of the following:

- Closure of installation involves the transfer of property to the community
- At least 50 local citizens petition the installation for creation of a RAB
- Federal, state, tribal, or local government representatives request the formation of a RAB
- Installation determines the need for a RAB



RAB Dissolution

- **Commander may recommend dissolution of a RAB when the RAB is no longer fulfilling the intended purpose of advising and providing community input to the Commander and decision makers on environmental restoration projects**
- **Prior to dissolution, Commander must make concerted effort to resolve issues that affect the RAB's effectiveness**



RAB Dissolution Procedure

- **Notify DASA (ESOH) through the chain of command the status, specifics of irreconcilable issues, and intent to dissolve the RAB**
- **Consult with USEPA, state, tribal, or other local government representatives, as appropriate, notify RAB Community Co-chair and members in writing of intent to dissolve RAB and reasons. Provide RAB 30 days to respond in writing**
- **Consider RAB responses, consult USEPA, state, tribal, or other local government representatives, as appropriate, determine appropriate action. If Commander makes decision to dissolve RAB, he/she must notify the public and allow for 30 day public comment period**



RAB Dissolution Procedure (cont)

- Review public comments, consult with USEPA, state, tribal, or other local government representatives, as appropriate, and render a recommendation
- Notify the public of recommendation and forward all documentation through the chain of command to DASA (ESOH) for approval or disapproval
- DASA (ESOH) notifies DUSD (I&E) of the decision to approve or disapprove the request to dissolve the RAB and the decision



RAB Dissolution Procedure (cont)

- **Commander notifies public of approval or disapproval to dissolve the RAB through written notice to RAB members and through the local newspaper – other opportunities for public involvement are discussed**
- **Commander ensures process is documented and placed in the Administrative Record**



RAB Adjourning - Commander may consider adjourning the RAB with input from the community when there is no longer need for a RAB or when community interest no longer exists.

- Record of Decision has been signed for all DERP sites
- Installation has reached response complete at all sites and no further environmental restoration decisions are required
- Installation has all remedies in place



RAB Adjourment - cont

- **There is no longer sufficient, sustained community interest**
- **Installation has been transferred out of DoD control and day to day responsibility for making restoration response decisions has been assumed by the transferee**
- **RAB has achieved desired end goal as defined in the RAB Operating Procedures**



RAB Adjournment Procedures

- **Commander should consult with EPA, state, tribes, RAB members and local community, as appropriate and consider responses before moving forward with adjournment**
- **Document rationale for adjournment in Memorandum for Record for inclusion in Administrative Record**
- **Notify RAB members and general public through written notice in the local newspaper and describe other ongoing public involvement opportunities that are available if the Commander chooses to adjourn the RAB.**



RAB Adjourment Documentation

- Reason RAB is adjourning
- Summary of environmental restoration activities and status of program at time of adjourment
- Summary of the RAB Activities
- Any continuing notification requirements to RAB members
- Any continuing Participation Requirements
- Statement that RAB members have agreed to adjourn
- Signature of Installation and Community co-chairs
- Approval by Garrison Commander



RAB Adjourment Documentation (cont)

- Refer to Attachment 5 and 6 in Army RAB/TAPP Guidance for additional information, format, and example of adjournment report.
- Forward Adjourment report to Tawana Spencer, USAEC. Adjourned RAB will be reflected in Army Environmental Data Base –Restoration Module.



Re-Solicitation of Interest – required if there is still and active IR or MR program and reason a RAB was never established or a RAB adjourned is due to lack of community interest

- the installation must re-evaluate the community for interest every two years.
- Coordinated surveys (telephone, focus groups, in person, by mail), ads in newspapers, installation web site, interviews, public information meetings
- Document results in the Installation Action Plan, Admin record for the restoration program and permanent clean-up repository



Funding/Program Issues

- **Use correct AMS codes for requesting RAB (493008.1A) and/or TAPP (493008.1C) funds**
- **Requirement to provide DoD with RAB expenditures...this is difficult RAB costs are part of a Performance Based Acquisition...still working issue**



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INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND



“Sustain, Support and Defend”