

**Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Meeting  
Recreation Center  
Natick, Massachusetts  
November 12, 2009  
Meeting Minutes**

**I. Attendance**

**RAB Members Present:**

Robert Campbell	MADEP
Christine Williams	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
Marco Kaltofen	Co-Chair, Community Member
Dr. Kannan Vembu	Board of Selectmen Representative
Joel McCassie	Co-Chair, Environmental, Safety and Health Office (ESHO) NSSC
Elizabeth McCoy	Employee Member U.S. Army Natick Soldier Systems Center (NSSC)
John McHugh	Restoration Officer, ESHO NSSC
A. Richard Miller	Community Member

**RAB Members Absent:**

James Fitzgerald	Community Member
LTC(R) Sid Gantman	Community Member
Neil Osgood Jr.	Community Member
Jim Straub	Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation
Dr. Harlee Strauss	Community Member
Dr. Charles Czeisler	Community Member, Lakewood Association
Steven Lubic	Board of Selectmen Representative
James Connolly	U.S. Army NSSC

**Others in Attendance:**

Kevin Palaia	ICF International
Kyle McGovern	NSSC
Adam Lachance	Charter Environmental
Tony Pisanelli	Charter Environmental
Scott Weber	USAEC
Debi Heims	H&S Environmental
Ryan Hipp	H&S Environmental
Jeff Pickett	MACTEC
Stacy Greendlinger	U.S. EPA
Willard Murray	ECC
Debra MacDonald	ECC
Robert Tess	ECC

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### **II. Handouts**

1. Agenda
2. Meeting Minutes from May 19, 2009
3. ECC Presentation

### **III. Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Joel McCassie called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm and introduced the Board Members to the new recorder, Ryan Hipp, of H&S Environmental, Inc. Mr. McCassie asked if there were any comments, changes, or revisions to the May 19, 2009 Meeting Minutes. A motion was made to accept minutes and the minutes were accepted.

#### **Groundwater Status Update (ECC)**

#### **Presentation by Robert Tess, ECC Project Manager**

#### **Handout: Natick SSC, Long Term Monitoring Update**

#### **T-25 North**

Mr. Robert Tess of ECC began by stating that the purpose of the presentation was to give a detailed update of the groundwater long term monitoring plan at the Natick Soldier System Command (SSC). He introduced Willard Murray and Deb McDonald, also of ECC, and stated that they may be asked to fill in any specific information during his presentation. He began by bringing up the point that during previous RAB meetings ECC talked about plans to improve reduction of contaminants at the T-25 plume northern lobe, which is the plume north of the facility. Mr. Tess mentioned that the original plan was to tie monitoring well MW-211 into the extraction system. He added that there is new data that now shows “non-detect” levels for both contaminants: TCE and PCE at MW-211. With this new information, ECC ran a groundwater contaminant model a few different ways to assess what additional opportunities would be available to shrink the plume. ECC came to the conclusion that MW-39, which was installed as a monitoring well with the potential to be used as an extraction well, could provide an alternative if used as an extraction well in conjunction with well MW-95. The model demonstrated that significant groundwater velocities could be achieved. Mr. Tess also mentioned that MW-208 would maximize the groundwater velocity and represents the ideal well to be utilized, but because it is only a 2-inch well it would require re-drilling. Mr. Tess stated that the next step is to run a pump tests for wells MW-39 and MW-95 to see if they are viable to use as extraction wells. He said that this could potentially happen in the next few weeks, with the tie-in of MW-39 being weather dependent. If they do decide to utilize MW-39, they might have to put off tie-in work until next spring.

#### **MW-40B**

Mr. Tess referenced previous discussions that involved the boiler plant area at the SSC, where there was a historical and persistent concentration of the contaminant Dieldrin in MW-40. Mr. Tess mentioned that ECC had previously over-drilled the well and installed a four inch well for potential use as an extraction well. He added that a second well was installed to the west of MW-40 for monitoring. Samples were collected from the new well. During early sampling rounds, there was no evidence of the contaminant, but the last couple of sampling rounds demonstrated that Dieldrin is present again and the concentrations

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are just above the MCL. Unless something happens during the December and March sampling rounds, ECC will plan to install piping and start extracting groundwater from MW-40 in the spring 2010.

### **Long Term Monitoring History (LTM)**

Mr. Tess continued by giving a brief history of the long term monitoring program. He stated that monitoring has been ongoing for 16 years and that ECC assumed responsibility for the program in March 2006. He stated that the Long Term Monitoring Program has been periodically revised with the most recent version approved in March 2009. He continued by stating that through June 2009 there has been 57 monitoring well sampling events covering more than 100 monitoring wells across the facility.

Mr. Tess added that the current program includes measuring the water levels of 119 monitoring wells to ensure that the three extraction networks are keeping plumes captured. He stated that ECC has been collecting samples at 71 wells for volatile organic compounds and other chemistry sampling. He added that many of the monitoring wells are sampled quarterly and approximately half are monitored at semi-annual or annual frequencies.

Mr. Tess continued his presentation by discussing data trends at the site. He stated that there is a consistent downward trend in the contaminants in all three areas which are Building 22/36 Area, T-25 Area and Building 63/2/45 Area. He added that the important thing about the plumes at Natick is over short periods of time the analysis doesn't show much improvement, but there are positive changes when viewed over longer periods of time. He commented that one does not necessarily see improvement from quarter to quarter, but when looking at the time since ECC has been on-site, he commented that there has been a definite change in the behavior of the plumes, mostly shrinkage, with the plumes pulling into the extraction wells.

Mr. Tess continued with ECC's recommendation for a long term monitoring plan revision. He stated that ECC will recommend a reduction in the sampling frequency of the monitoring wells. Mr. Tess added that ECC has produced several graphs that, although they contain certain anomalies, demonstrate that the general trends of the PCE and TCE Plume maps are downward. Mr. Tess continued stating that the plume stability suggested that the sampling frequency can be changed from quarterly to semi-annual and still maintain a complete database describing the plume movement and the rate of change in concentrations. He mentioned that there are some places where the trend line is flat, but these are areas at the center of the plume where the contamination is being drawn. He reiterated that one may see some points where contamination levels increase, but in general the trend is downward.

Mr. Tess stated again that ECC intends to recommend a change in sampling frequency from quarterly to semi-annually for most, if not all of the wells. The wells were already being sampled on a semi-annual basis will remain at that frequency. He added that ECC will complete further data analysis to determine if there are seasonal considerations. He added that ECC has not yet found a seasonal trend at the site.

Mr. Tess stated that the extraction wells at the treatment plant will continue to be sampled quarterly for TCE and PCE. He stated that the ECC recommendation is strictly for groundwater monitoring and not for the treatment plant. Mr. Tess also stated that ECC will recommend the ground water level monitoring to occur on a semi-annual basis to verify that the GWETS maintains plume capture.

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This concluded ECC's Groundwater Status update presentation by Mr. Tess.

Mr. Tess opened the floor to questions.

Mr. Kaltofen asked if after switching to semi-annual sampling, if there was an increase in the trends of concentration of the contaminants would ECC would consider increasing the frequency of sampling.

Mr. Tess stated that they would not necessarily pick an exact number for concentration increase as it could be a blip.

Mr. Kaltofen commented that there should be a quantitative way to make that decision because there is an expense to adding another round of sampling.

Mr. Tess stated that any time there is a jump in results, there is the opportunity to sample because ECC is on-site frequently.

Mr. Kaltofen questioned whether the southern part of facility, where there is less history and higher concentrations of contamination, should remain on a quarterly sampling schedule.

Mr. Tess stated that ECC plans to recommend that the entire site switch to a semi-annual sampling schedule. He also stated that ECC does have quite a bit of history for the southern part of facility and that they could consider a case by case situation.

Ms. MacDonald added that the locations where higher concentrations of contaminants were seen are near the extraction wells, and the plumes are shown to be captured, so they are not concerned about high concentrations of groundwater making it off the base. She added that if a well showed a higher concentration that was out of the ordinary, ECC would keep an eye on it. She then asked if there were any specific reasons to increase the frequency if an increase in contamination is observed.

Mr. Tess continued and referred to an example from the presentation. He pointed to MW-123B which is shown in the center of the T-25 plume. He said that there is little risk switching to semi-annual sampling. He also added that if they see an increase in concentration inside the plume it demonstrates that the extraction system is working as they are drawing in the contamination into that location. He added that they know that they have capture in that area so there is no risk. Mr. Tess agreed that if, at outer reaches of the plume, they see increased concentrations above the MCL, than they would consider stepping up the sampling frequency and possibly sampling some targeted areas.

Mr. Kaltofen referred to a figure in the presentation where a new contaminant has been detected in the latest round of sampling (September 2009).

Mr. Tess stated that they are still investigating the data at this point.

Mr. Kaltofen asked if this would be a target for quarterly testing.

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Mr. Tess asked if ICF was still investigating that area.

Mr. Palaia responded affirmatively.

Mr. Tess added that in this case, quarterly sampling might be warranted.

Mr. Miller said that it was a good presentation, but that he was worried about anomalies and excursions from a smooth time curve. He also stated that if sampling were to occur twice a year, the sampling may be performed during the wrong time of the year to identify for some things that don't occur that consistently. He added that some event might fall between points and not be measured. Mr. Miller had another question regarding the capture operation and was worried about a slug already traveling north towards the drinking wells near Route 9. He asked if they are still measuring that or if they missed the traveling slug if they are only worried about the southern section of the base. Mr. Miller asked if this is possible, and what are the reasons for saying so.

Mr. Tess stated that some of the northern wells are already on a reduced sampling frequency and that they were before ECC took over the program.

Ms. MacDonald commented on the speed of the groundwater travels in this area. She added that when one is talking about a slug moving on the base, it is not going to sweep past wells.

Mr. Miller asked where the northern most well was. He also asked if they think there is currently testing going on within that hypothetical risk example he had just given.

Mr. Tess stated that ECC would catch it before moves past last well adding that the groundwater moves slowly in that area.

Mr. Miller asked if in addition to being slow, is it uniform. He also asked if sampling semi-annually would detect a slug.

Mr. Tess stated that it would have to be an exceptionally small slug to miss a well.

Ms. MacDonald stated that there is an investigation into using additional extraction wells on base, as opposed to off-site. She said that this would have greater pull, and based on the models, it would capture more contaminants from the north. She added that this would keep it on the base area better than trying to take it into MW-208 where it would be captured off the base.

Mr. Miller said that everyone in the room was expressing a high level of confidence and asked if everyone thinks his concern in highly unlikely.

Ms. MacDonald stated that after reviewing all the years data, it suggests that they would see something if it was migrating up.

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Mr. Kaltofen asked if based on the model estimate, when doing a pump test on MW-39 will we see a southerly gradient at MW-208?

Mr. Tess stated that the short answer is yes.

Mr. Kaltofen asked if ECC expects to see a level drop during the pump test at MW-208

Mr. Tess stated that they will usually set water level probes at wells MW-208 and MW-211 during the pump test at MW-39 to verify that there is a drawdown in the groundwater level at those two wells.

Mr. Kaltofen asked if a successful test would mean seeing a drop in groundwater level of a couple of inches at MW-208 and MW-211.

Mr. Tess stated that seeing the groundwater level drop fractions of an inch would be considered successful and that more than that would have other negative effects.

Mr. Tess asked if there were any other questions

Mr. Kaltofen said thank you and introduced the next presentation.

### **Sediment Remediation Contract and Schedule Update**

#### **Presentation by Charter Environmental and ICF International**

No Handout

Mr. Tony Pisanelli started his presentation by introducing Charter Environmental (Charter) and ICF personnel. Mr. Pisanelli stated that Charter was teaming with ICF for this project. He went on to talk about how Charter Environmental has experience with heavy civil remedial construction, waterway remediation, and contaminated sediment and soil work.

Mr. McHugh stated that Charter worked as a subcontractor on the gym site, boiler plant, and building 13 & 14 at the SSC.

Mr. Pisanelli continued stating that there are three major companies involved. Charter is the contract prime and is responsible for project management, quality control, and Health & Safety. He also stated that Charter would be responsible for managing efforts of the hydraulic dredging, dewatering, and water treatment while also managing the transportation and disposal of the dredged sediment. He added that ICF has extensive knowledge based on past involvement of projects at the base. He added that ICF was taking the lead of all of the project plans and is responsible for the monitoring before, during, and after the dredging operation. He added that Inter Space Dredging is the third company and would be responsible for the actual dredging work. He added that Charter has a history of working with them.

Mr. Palaia continued the presentation by summarizing the history of the project. He said that in May 2009 the proposed plan was issued with two public meetings held on May 21<sup>st</sup> and June 10<sup>th</sup>. In September 2009, the final ROD was signed, after the public meetings and other comments were received. He added

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that responses to public comments were addressed in Part III of the ROD. He stated that copies of the ROD were distributed to RAB members and posted on the EPA website. In September, the RFP for the dredging was issued for a competitive bid process and an agreement was signed at the end of September.

Mr. Pisanelli continued the presentation by discussing the selected remedy. He stated that the selection of remedy for the project involved looking at several alternatives and that the method selected was Hot Spot Dredge Removal. He said that the major components of the remedy will be starting in 2009 with pre-remediation surveys and the dredging will begin in 2010. He added that pre clean-up surveys are being conducted by Inter Space Dredging on the lake. He explained that this involves taking sediment samples in order to optimize the dredging system. He added that a pre-dredging bathymetric survey will need to be completed too. Mr. Pisanelli said that Charter will be working with Inter Space as the plans come in, and the work is currently on-going. He added that they hope to be out in the field putting erosion control measures in the upland area in early spring 2010. He explained that this would involve lake control measures such as turbidity curtains. Signage will also be posted to prohibit boating and fishing in the dredging areas. Once the upland area is ready, dredging will start, and dredge material will be pumped to the upland area through a manifold system into geotextile bags. He added that water is allowed to pass through the geotextile bag, but the sediment remains contained within the bag. The sediment will be allowed to dry so that it is able to be put onto specialized trucks and transported to an appropriate facility. He added that inside the dredged area, clean fill will be placed in those areas if needed. Monitoring will include turbidity readings during dredging process with confirmatory sediment samples taken after the dredging process to see what the concentrations are in restored areas. He also stated that the upland area will be restored to pre-dredging condition, and that this system actively removes contamination in a way that is protective of workers and residents. It's a proven technology that has been used to similar applications and is cost effective.

Mr. Pisanelli continued the presentation by displaying some representative pictures of projects utilizing similar methods. He stated that the dredge plant has a swing ladder that goes down to the sediment and works on a negative vacuum pump system. The dredged material is pumped through a system of floating pipes to the geotextile bags in the upland area where the sediment is dewatered. He added that the sediment stays in the bags while the water is removed and captured on an impermeable base, which is pitched so that the water can be collected and then run through an on-site treatment system. The water is cleansed of residual chemicals and is tested before being discharged back into the lake. He stated that this is a closed loop system.

Mr. Palaia continued the presentation by talking about the status of the project plans. He stated that Contractor-Army Plans (PMP and QASP) have been submitted and are currently under Army review. He added that these plans mostly address contractual issues and will be finalized next month. He added that these are live documents and are continually updated as plans change. He continued stating that the next big document coming up for RAB and regulatory review is the Remedial Design Plan, which is currently under development and that a draft is expected within the next month. He stated that the remedial design would layout the technical specifications and approach and discuss the order that the steps will be accomplished and this will be in accordance with the ROD.

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Mr. Lachance added that the RAB should expect to see the document in the late January time frame.

Mr. Palaia added that they would like to get on the water in early spring 2010.

Mr. Pisanelli stated that the anticipated schedule has November/December being used to finalizing project plans, conduct pre-survey sampling, complete bag surveys to find the most appropriate geotextile bags to utilize, and to develop the draft Remedial Design and the Draft HSP. He added that January through April 2010 will be used to develop the draft final and final RD and also to begin site preparation and mobilization. May through August 2010 will involve the dredging operation with September 2010 through 2011 would involve the post-remedial sampling/reporting. He stated that ICF would be taking the lead on the post remedial sampling/reporting.

Mr. Pisanelli opened the floor up to questions.

Ms. Stacey Greendlinger asked if, at the signing of the ROD, any notice was issued to let the public know that the ROD had been signed. She recommended that the notice not be printed in the legal section, but in a display ad and once the remedial design is complete, this information should be communicated to the general public as a newsletter or similar. She mentioned that this should be factored in the schedule as well, and that the public would be interested in the next steps due to the prime location of the project, and because it is a public resource.

Mr. Palaia stated that they have incorporated public outreach effort into the schedule that is presented in the Project Management Plan.

Ms. Greendlinger stated that the RAB would be interested in hearing about the plan.

Mr. Kaltofen asked if the sediments are oxygen poor and if the dredging contractor has flagged that based on samples taken. He also asked if odor was a problem.

Mr. Pisanelli responded stating that most projects he has experienced with don't have a lot of oxygen but it also depends on the system that is used. Mechanical dredging process' that involve leaving the sediment to the open environment are examples where one would run into odor issues. He stated that the sediments can release hydrogen sulfide when they come into oxygenated environments; this is when one runs into odor issues, such as the smell of rotten eggs. He stated that this is usually seen in a non-marine dredging operation that involves a mechanical process and not a hydraulic process. He added that sediment is removed under water and transported through piping system into the geotextile bags. He stated that at that point there is the possibility of an odor problem and Charter has carried in the project controls methods for dealing with the odor. He added that biodegradable environmental sprays are available to spray on bags to control odor. Also, when bags are opened, odor can also be encountered. He stated that the bags will have to be opened in a controlled manner within a limited open area and opening small numbers of bags.

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Mr. Kaltofen commented that this is an instance when having someone designated as a Project Manager would be useful for the public as people would have a point of contact if this becomes a problem.

Mr. Lachance added that it is not an issue to have contact list.

Mr. Pisanelli stated that they would work out a chain-of-command. He also added that in a non military setting where access is less restricted, people can show up on site and ask questions. Typically a Project Superintendent would be there and that might not be the best person to take questions from the Public.

Mr. Kaltofen then asked if there is a disposal site tagged for this project.

Mr. Pisanelli stated that this was a scope item and that a variety of disposal sites are permitted to take this type of material. He added that during the bidding process they looked at several sites, based on the PCB concentrations, and several potential sites have been identified.

Mr. Kaltofen asked if this was a solid hazardous waste facility.

Mr. Lachance said that it would depend on the analysis of sediment and the sample results would determine whether the disposal site can be in-state or an out-of-state Subtitle D Facility. He reiterated that they won't be able to say until after the analysis.

Mr. Pisanelli clarified that the word hazardous waste, as it relates to a disposal facility, has a very specific definition. He stated that this material is not hazardous but it is PCB impacted. He added that if the results were greater than 50ppm PCBs, it would be considered TSCA regulated and would have to go to TSCA regulated facility and that would also affect the distance that the material would have to be transported. He reiterated that this material at this site is not TSCA.

Mr. Kaltofen stated that he understood, and asked if the fill type had been picked out.

Mr. Pisanelli stated that the fill material would be clean washed sand.

Mr. Kaltofen asked if the post remedial monitoring would be for sediment only.

Mr. Palaia responded affirmatively and added that it would include all dredge areas after completion.

Mr. Kaltofen asked when sampling are they looking for results of 1ppm for just the excavated areas or for the entire cove.

Mr. Palaia responded saying that they are looking for 1ppm averaged over the entire cove. He added that the existing sediment data would be included to ensure that the overall average is below 1ppm.

Mr. Kaltofen asked what would happen the results came back above 1 ppm.

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Ms. Christine Williams stated that if the results were higher than 1ppm then more dredging would need to occur.

Mr. Palaia said that the option chosen was to backfill the affected areas. He added that under the current ROD the backfill concentration can be used in the overall average of the cove.

Mr. Kaltofen commented that he noticed some disagreement between Charter, ICF, and Ms. Williams.

Mr. Pisanelli said that there is no disagreement between ICF and Charter and added that this is exactly what was stated in the ROD.

Mr. Palaia reminded the RAB that the backfill is an extra step to ensure that if there is any contaminants left in the dredged areas that it will be covered with clean material.

Ms. Williams said that she would have to look at the specific language in the ROD to see if that was correct and added that if digging out material still produces higher than 1ppm when you run the averages then you haven't done enough. She said that she will let the RAB know what she found out.

Mr. Miller stated that this issue steps into area that he is worried about which is clearing some areas of the lake and not others. He added that there have been reports in the past of an increased level of Eurasian water milfoil in the lake and the need to clear it. He said that this started in Pegan Cove which is not where boats are launched. He stated that the Base's launching ramp is the most likely source of the introduction of the milfoil. He said that the clearing of the milfoil has gone very slowly so far. Pilot work was completed in the late summer and it was discovered that other states have done very well using diver-assisted suction harvesting (DASH) boats. He added that a major attempt to utilize this diver assisted boats fell through last winter at Lake Cochituate. Mass Department of Conservation and Recreation said that the review process will be different for next year, but that it doesn't guarantee that the boat will be available. He added though that it is likely in 5 years they will start trying to clear the area where the contaminants are at the State Park swim area for example. From there it would go upstream and downstream removing the roots. He added that Pegan Cove would be the starting point for that cleared cleanup. He continued stated that his original concern was the area of the lake that is not being cleared, but now he is concerned about areas that are being cleared. Because the results are being averaged, the dredging might not be adequate to address the issue of pulling the roots of the milfoil and not spreading the contaminants. He stated that he feels that this has not been addressed.

Mr. Pisanelli said that the job is not designed to address the milfoil removal issue.

Mr. Miller stated that they don't want Charter to remove the milfoil, but they don't want Charter to impede on the milfoil removal process.

Mr. Pisanelli stated that he doesn't know what Mr. Miller means by impeding.

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Mr. Miller stated that earlier they were told they shouldn't try some techniques for milfoil removal because it would disturb dangerous sediments. He asked if the sediment has stopped being dangerous or will it stop being dangerous, or it will continue to have the clean-up impede it. He also stated that the long term plan for the lake should not include having a dangerous section of the lake where we cannot remove the milfoil. He added that this is a major recreational lake in eastern Massachusetts.

Mr. Pisanelli stated that Charter has been hired to remove certain areas of sediment that have been impacted by PCB's. He also stated that through the process, site wide averaging was agreed to be used. He added that this is the approach that is going to be used here.

Mr. Pisanelli asked whether the Army could speak to this issue in greater detail.

Mr. Miller stated that he understood Charter's constraints and stated that the project spent a lot of money to do a lot of work. He asked if have we removed or continued to impediment on milfoil removal in the cove.

Mr. Kaltofen asked if the milfoil issue should be a separate agenda item, as the design process continues, and that it seems like the board should discuss the issue at some length.

Dr. Vembu asked if the RAB first gets to see the Final Design in late January, would they get a chance to comment/critique it.

Mr. Lachance stated that the RAB would receive the draft final in mid to late January and they would have 45 days to comment, review and discuss.

Mr. Kaltofen said that the RAB should have outside people with experience in milfoil removal to participate in the conversation.

Mr. McHugh stated that the group should talk about the issue but he did reiterate that PCB sediment is being removed along with the milfoil in the hot spot areas.

Mr. Miller asked would we or won't be able to complete root removal along Pegan cove as a result of the dredging.

Mr. McHugh stated that there has never been a risk, which has been in the Risk Assessment all along to a swimmer or a diver or anyone in the lake. The risk before was in moving the milfoil could spread the contaminated sediments, but in this case the contaminated sediments, the hot spots, will be gone because they are averaging to the 1ppm. He also stated that he is willing to discuss this, but he doesn't see the issue.

Mr. Miller stated that his earlier hypothetical issue could be answered and was not a significant issue. But several years ago when they talked about the disturbing the sediment it was indicted as a potential problem. He asked if there will be a problem with root removal stirring up sediment. He then stated that if

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the RAB won't look at the issue, then we aren't looking at the problem yet. If it's not a problem, that's fine. He stated that he would be happy to learn that.

Mr. Kaltofen asked Mr. Miller if his New Hampshire Contact had an idea of how much sediment is disturbed by the milfoil root removal process.

Mr. Miller stated that he can tell the group that there is a lot of turbidity while root removal process is going on. He stated that he does not have detailed numbers, but if one thinks it will be clear, than they are wrong. He also stated that if the clean up leaves a milfoil infested lake, or the need to chemically treat Natick's drinking water, then the RAB fails. He also added that if this is not a problem, then the question has been adequately answered.

Ms. Williams stated that the risk assessment that was done for the sediments for a swimmer, a wader, or the human health scenario showed no unacceptable risk in the lake for the recreational use before sediment removal. She added that once the Army removes the hot spots, the risk to people out using the lake is even lower. She added that the moving of sediments around lake in her mind is a moot issue because we have already taken out the hot spots so what's remaining is lower.

Mr. Miller stated that if it remains a realistic prediction that sediment disturbance from pulling roots is acceptable, than he would be happy. He stated that he just wants to make sure there is a realistic meeting of the two projects.

Ms. Williams stated that they have the data and ICF is crunching numbers. She added that once the remedial action is complete, there will be additional data to make sure that it will work out. She stated that she doesn't see how it could be any worse.

Mr. Miller stated that they were not talking about pulling roots and it doesn't talk about turbidity.

Mr. Kaltofen asked if he was correct in assuming that the dredging will create lots of turbidity and that's the reason for the silt fence.

Mr. Pisanelli stated that the dredging will create some turbidity, not a great deal. He stated that different types of dredging create more turbidity but the selected method has more of a vacuum suction at the interface. He added that there will be some turbidity generated and some suspended matter in the water column, but that is the purpose of having the turbidity curtain.

Mr. Kaltofen asked if Charter measures TSS during dredging.

Mr. Pisanelli stated that they are measuring turbidity during the operation.

Mr. Kaltofen stated that he thinks root removal would create less turbidity than dredging, thus giving the RAB a benchmark as to how much turbidity to expect in a worst case. He added that if the dredging wouldn't create an unacceptable condition, then the root removal shouldn't also.

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Mr. Miller stated he would characterize the root removal as a lesser level than suction dredging.

Mr. Palaia stated that turbidity measurements would be taken during the removal action.

Mr. Kaltofen stated that they should be able to see how quickly the PCB sediment settles out of the water column.

Mr. Palaia stated that the silt curtains are there to ensure that suspended sediments do not migrate to other parts of the lake. Thus, they will be monitoring outside of the silt fence to ensure that silt curtains are effective.

Mr. Kaltofen stated he was thinking about how quickly the suspended sediments retreat to their normal level after dredging stops.

Mr. Pisanelli stated that Mr. Kaltofen has a different objective than what is completed in dredging projects. He added that dredge projects are focused on turbidity monitoring outside the work area.

Mr. Kaltofen stated that he didn't realize they measured from outside of the silt curtain.

Mr. Kaltofen asked Mr. Miller if this should be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

Mr. Miller stated that if it fits in time wise.

Mr. Kaltofen asked if there were any other questions.

Dr. Vembu asked if there is going to be a meeting once we have the draft design.

Mr. McHugh stated that normally one would receive the draft first and then have a meeting.

Dr. Vembu agreed.

Mr. Kaltofen asked if there were any other questions and then thanked everyone.

### **Public Comment Period**

Mr. Miller stated that he wanted to apprise the group that Framingham has been seeking state approval to revitalize a 20 or 30 year abandoned drinking water well along the Sudbury River in northeast Framingham. He stated that it will affect Sudbury River stream flow more so than Lake Cochituate, but that the lake will be affected, they just don't know by how much. A Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) was released by Framingham and the project was required to go back to the drawing board. A Final EIR did not pass and a supplemental EIR has been required due to the lack of data from Framingham. He stated that in the worst case Lake Cochituate would go down 2 or 3 inches according to the calculations, but those numbers were not based on good measurements. Their argument is that they used to take out a lot of water so they should be allowed to take water now and be grandfathered in. Five million dollars in

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stimulus money has been blocked by many state and federal agencies and the project has seen more than the usual interest.

Mr. Miller stated as a side note that Nestle has a bottling manufacturing plant in Framingham. He said that the water is coming from two sources, one from the MWRA and the second is that is being transported down from Maine. He stated that they are wasting money shipping from Maine. He stated that we are trying to the keep water in lake and clean it, with this operation out there to reduce it.

Mr. Kaltofen asked if there were any other questions.

Mr. Kaltofen motioned to adjourn.

Mr. McHugh seconded the motion.

Meeting adjured at 8:26pm