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ties were performed; in the second step demolition and post-demolition activities occurred.

Site investigation activities included establishment of the site layout, vegetation clearance, conduct of a geophysical survey, and soil sampling. To identify surface and subsurface items, a magnetometer capable of detecting a 5-inch item buried to a depth of five feet was used. More than 430 subsurface anomalies were excavated, including 139 UXO items.



Inert scrap from debris pit for disposal

Following the investigation, an exclusion zone of 1,250 foot radius was established, and demolition pits were set up with the excavated UXO and explosives.

Two detonations were conducted. Following the detonations, the scrap metal was certified by the EOD team as inert scrap for disposal. A soil sample was collected in the detonation pit area for confirmation that the detonations caused no soil contamination.

For more information regarding the RAB, contact  
**Ms. Charline Logue,**  
**Robins AFB RAB Manager**  
 (478) 926-1197, ext. 128.

**Glossary**

- AFB- Air Force Base
- AFCEE- Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence
- AOC- Area of Concern
- EM- Environmental Management Directorate
- EOD- Explosive Ordnance Disposal
- GA EPD- Georgia Environmental Protection Division
- NFA- No Further Action
- PBC- Performance Based Contracting
- RAB- Restoration Advisory Board
- RCRA- Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
- RFI- RCRA Facility Investigation
- SVE- Soil Vapor Extraction
- SWMU- Solid Waste Management Unit
- SVOC- Semi-volatile Organic Compound
- TCE- Trichloroethylene
- UST- Underground Storage Tank
- UXO- Unexploded Ordnance
- VOC- Volatile Organic Compound



Excavation of anomalies at AOC 15

**Restoration Advisory Board Members**

<b>Mr. Steven Coyle,</b> Robins AFB Installation Co-Chair	<b>Dr. Dan Callahan,</b> Warner Robins Community Member	<b>Mr. Mike Maffeo,</b> Macon Community Member
<b>Mr. James Harden,</b> Warner Robins Community Co-Chair	<b>Ms. Marianne Golmitz,</b> Warner Robins Community Member	<b>Dr. M.B. Neace,</b> Macon Community Member
<b>Ms. Dawn Taylor</b> U.S. EPA Region 4 Federal Facility, Hazardous Waste Div.	<b>Mr. John Harley,</b> Centerville Community Member	<b>Dr. Brian E. Rood,</b> Macon Community Member
<b>Ms. Mary Brown</b> GA EPD Hazardous Waste Management	<b>Dr. Joyce Jenkins,</b> Fort Valley Community Member	<b>Ms. Kathy Stege,</b> Macon Community Member
<b>Mr. Kevin Long, Robins AFB</b> Chief, Environmental Operations Div.	<b>Mr. Steve Johnson,</b> Macon Community Member	<b>Dr. Joseph Swartwout,</b> Fort Valley Community Member
	<b>Mr. Broderick Lowe,</b> Warner Robins Community Member	<b>Mr. Don Thompson,</b> Macon Community Member



# Robins Air Force Base Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) *Fact Sheet*



A publication of Robins AFB

Volume 6, Issue 2, June 2003

## The Robins AFB RAB

Recognizing the importance of public involvement in environmental restoration, Robins Air Force Base established the Restoration Advisory Board in 1994. The mission of the RAB is to encourage community participation in the Air Force Environmental Restoration Program cleanup process and allow community members and other stakeholders to have meaningful dialog with Base officials. The RAB includes members from the community, regulatory agencies, and the Base, and holds four public forums per year. The RAB serves to advise Robins AFB management and disseminate information to the public.

## June RAB Meeting

The summer meeting of the RAB was held June 12, 2003, at the Hampton Inn, Warner Robins, Georgia. The theme of this meeting was "Remedial Systems Optimization." Three technical briefings were presented; the topics covered were, "Optimization of Horizontal Well," "Horse Pasture Site Performance Based Remediation," and "Debris Pit Site Investigation & Removal Action."

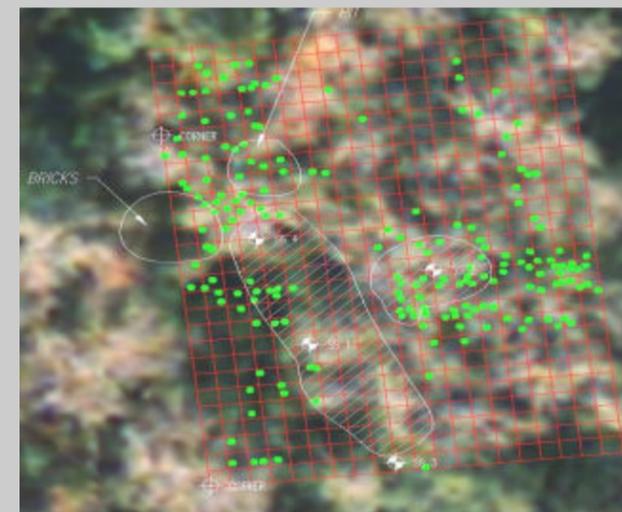
This RAB *Fact Sheet* provides a summary of the information and topics discussed in the meeting.  
**The next meeting will be held on September 11, 2003.**

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## Debris Pit Site Investigation and Removal Action Completed

**Mr. John Domenech,** Ellis Environmental Group, briefed the RAB on the recently completed site investigation and removal action at the debris pit site. This site, also known as AOC 15, is located just off the installation boundary approximately 100 yards from the Family Camping Area.



Debris pit site map showing location of anomalies (green dots) prior to excavation

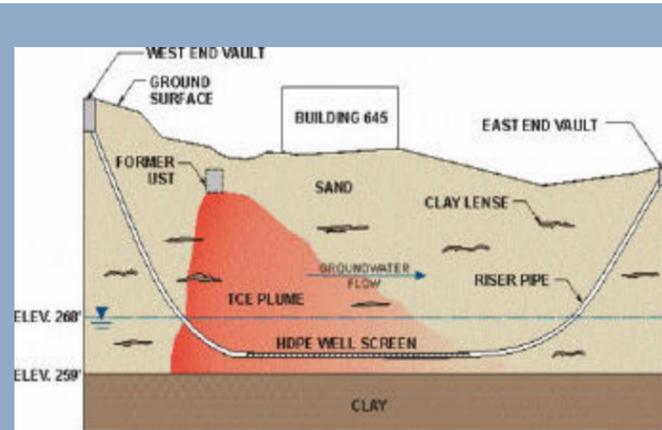
An EOD team from Moody AFB investigated the site in 1998, and found numerous ordnance-related items in an area measuring 12 meters square by 1.5 meters deep. This investigation led to the decision to further investigate and safely remove or destroy ordnance-related items at the site.

Recently completed activities were conducted in two steps. In the first step, further site investigation activi-

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## Optimization of Horizontal Well Produces Benefits at Building 645 Restoration Site

A horizontal well that was installed in the area of Building 645 was not operating up to its design potential, and an aggressive optimization program was undertaken to improve the well's performance. According to **Mr. Jimmy Whitmer**, GeoSyntec Consultants, the well was installed to remove groundwater contaminated with TCE that resulted from a former leaking UST. The well also was intended to lower the water level to a sufficient degree that an SVE system



The horizontal well was installed beneath Building 645 to expedite remediation of a TCE spill from a former UST. The well was 1,200 feet long and was installed at a depth of 40 feet below the building.

installed at the site would perform properly. After installation of the well, it was determined that the pumping rate was not at the design level (as predicted by modeling), and was in fact decreasing even further.

Investigations resulted in the determination that three problems likely were causing the substandard performance of the well. These potential problems were clogging of the filter fabric lining inside the well, reduction of soil porosity due to injection of drilling fluid containing clay during installation, and lack of thorough development of the completed well.

A program involving filter fabric removal followed by cleaning with high-pressure water was undertaken. As a final step in the optimization program, a high-flow well flushing was performed. The outcome of the optimization program was a well pump operating at the desired flow rate and a water level lowered to the point that the SVE system operates properly.



Fabric removal tool (l) and filter fabric shreds after removal from the horizontal well (r)

## RAB Says Goodbye to Brent Rabon

Brent Rabon has served as a RAB member and GA EPD Hazardous Waste Compliance Officer for the past seven years. With a recent promotion, Brent is leaving the RAB; his replacement, Mary Brown, has already stepped in and begun to actively participate in RAB meetings. At the June 12 RAB meeting, Steve Coyle presented Brent with a framed certificate of appreciation, a scrapbook detailing some of the memorable RAB events during Brent's tenure, and an EM coffee cup. We thank Brent for his immeasurable contributions in accelerating the clean-up of our restoration sites.



Steve Coyle, Installation Co-chair, and Brent Rabon display the plaque that was presented to Brent on the occasion of his departure from the RAB after seven years of dedicated service

## Horse Pasture Remediation to Become Performance Based Contracting Project

Robins AFB has elected to participate in the Air Force initiative to conduct site clean-up projects by a new contracting method known as "Performance Based Contracting" or PBC. A briefing by **Mr. John Matthews** of the Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence (AFCEE) provided details of how PBC works and how the concept will be applied at the Horse Pasture site at Robins. PBC is an approach with minimal focus on the contracting process and maximum focus on achieving results, according to Mr. Matthews. It is used to complete site clean-ups with site closures in less time and with less direct management than traditional contracting requires.

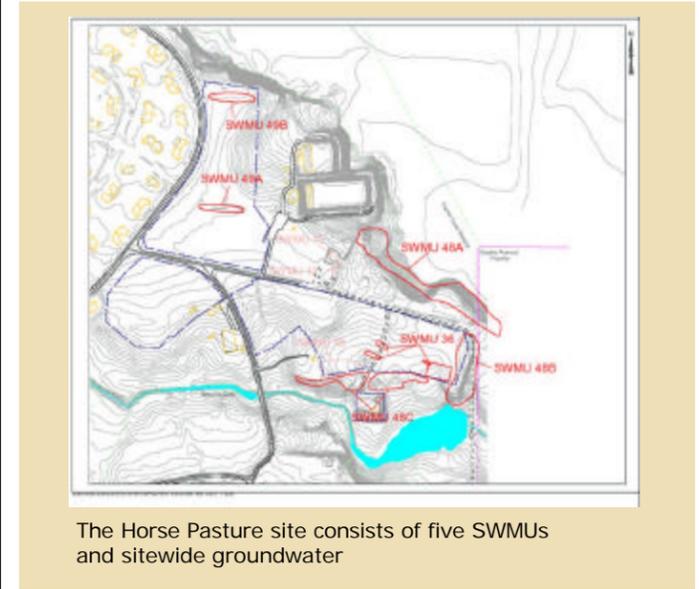
In PBC, the government completes a "Statement of Objectives". Contractors respond to this statement with proposals that detail their approaches and technologies proposed. The contractor has responsibility for reviewing all site information and selecting the technologies and methods, maintaining project progress and schedule compliance, and providing verification to the government that all objectives specified in the contract are



John Matthews and Brent Rabon discuss PBC after the meeting

met. As an additional advantage, the government combines the various steps together as a single contract, saving the time and expense of multiple contracts.

*Our Web address:*  
[www.em.robins.af.mil](http://www.em.robins.af.mil)



The Horse Pasture site consists of five SWMUs and sitewide groundwater

According to Mr. Matthews, the Horse Pasture site provides a good opportunity for Robins to implement PBC. The site consists of five SWMUs and site groundwater. The site was used for disposal from the 1950s to the 1970s, and contains several classes of contaminants, including metals, VOCs, and SVOCs. The site has been characterized, culminating in two RFI reports submitted during the past three years.

AFCEE has available 14 contractors who have been invited to submit bids on either of two alternatives. Proposal alternative 1 (preferred) includes objectives of NFA for all five SWMUs and site groundwater. Proposal alternative 2 includes NFA for the five SWMUs, permanent containment of the groundwater plume at the Base boundary, and reduction of all groundwater contaminants below defined concentrations.

## Robins Wins Air Force-Level P2 Award

At the June 12 RAB meeting, Steve Coyle announced that Robins AFB has won another Air Force-level environmental award. He announced that the Base was the winner of the 2002 General Thomas D. White Pollution Prevention Award for Individual/Team Excellence. Maj Gen Wetekam led the delegation from Robins to a Pentagon ceremony where he accepted the award.

