



**SPRING VALLEY FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITE PROJECT**  
**RAB Meeting**

**April 9, 2013**  
**7:00 – 7:45 p.m.**

**UNDERCROFT MEETING ROOM**  
**ST. DAVID'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
**5150 MACOMB ST. NW, WASHINGTON, DC**

**Agenda**

- 7:00 p.m. I. Administrative Items**  
Co-Chair Updates  
▪ Announcements, Introductions  
Task Group Updates
- 7:05 p.m. II. USACE Program Updates**  
Groundwater Study  
Glenbrook Road
- 7:20 p.m. III. Community Items**
- 7:25 p.m. IV. Open Discussion & Future RAB Agenda Development**  
RAB Meeting Schedule Discussion  
Possible Upcoming Meeting Topics\*:  
▪ Report on Site Wide Risk Assessment Review (ERT)  
▪ Groundwater Study Overview  
▪ 4825 Glenbrook Road Health Consultation Update (ATSDR)
- 7:35 p.m. V. Public Comments**
- 7:45 p.m. VI. Adjourn**

*\* RAB meetings are not held in August or December*

# Spring Valley

Formerly Used Defense Site

## Restoration Advisory Board Meeting

April 9, 2013

“The USACE Mission in Spring Valley is to identify, investigate and remove or remediate threats to human health, safety or to the environment resulting from past Department of Defense activities in the area.”



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# Agenda Review

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## ❖ Co-Chair Updates

- Introductions, Announcements

## ❖ USACE Updates

- Groundwater Study
- Glenbrook Road

## ❖ Community Items

## ❖ Open Discussion & Agenda Development

- RAB Meeting Schedule Discussion

## ❖ Public Comments



# Co-Chair Updates

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## Introductions



# Co-Chair Updates

## ❖ Announcements

- New RAB Member Orientation is scheduled for **April 25<sup>th</sup>**
- **Tenley-Friendship Library:**
  - RAB meeting materials - 2012 binder completed
  - Public Protection Plan for 4825 Glenbrook Road project's high probability efforts
- **Website Updates:**
  - The 4825 Glenbrook Road Public Protection Plan is now available on the Spring Valley FUDS website.
  - February 2013 RAB meeting materials (agenda, presentation, and minutes)



# Task Group Updates



# Groundwater



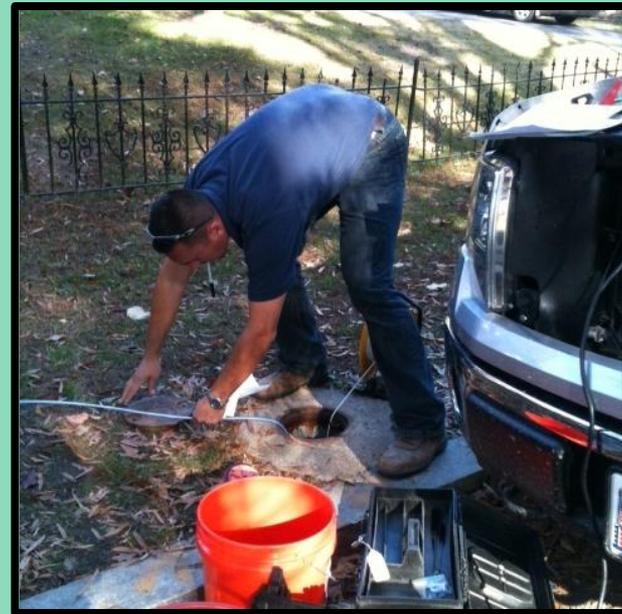
# Groundwater

Last week the USACE field team confirmed their availability for the April 2013 sampling event.

Tentative:

Week of April 15

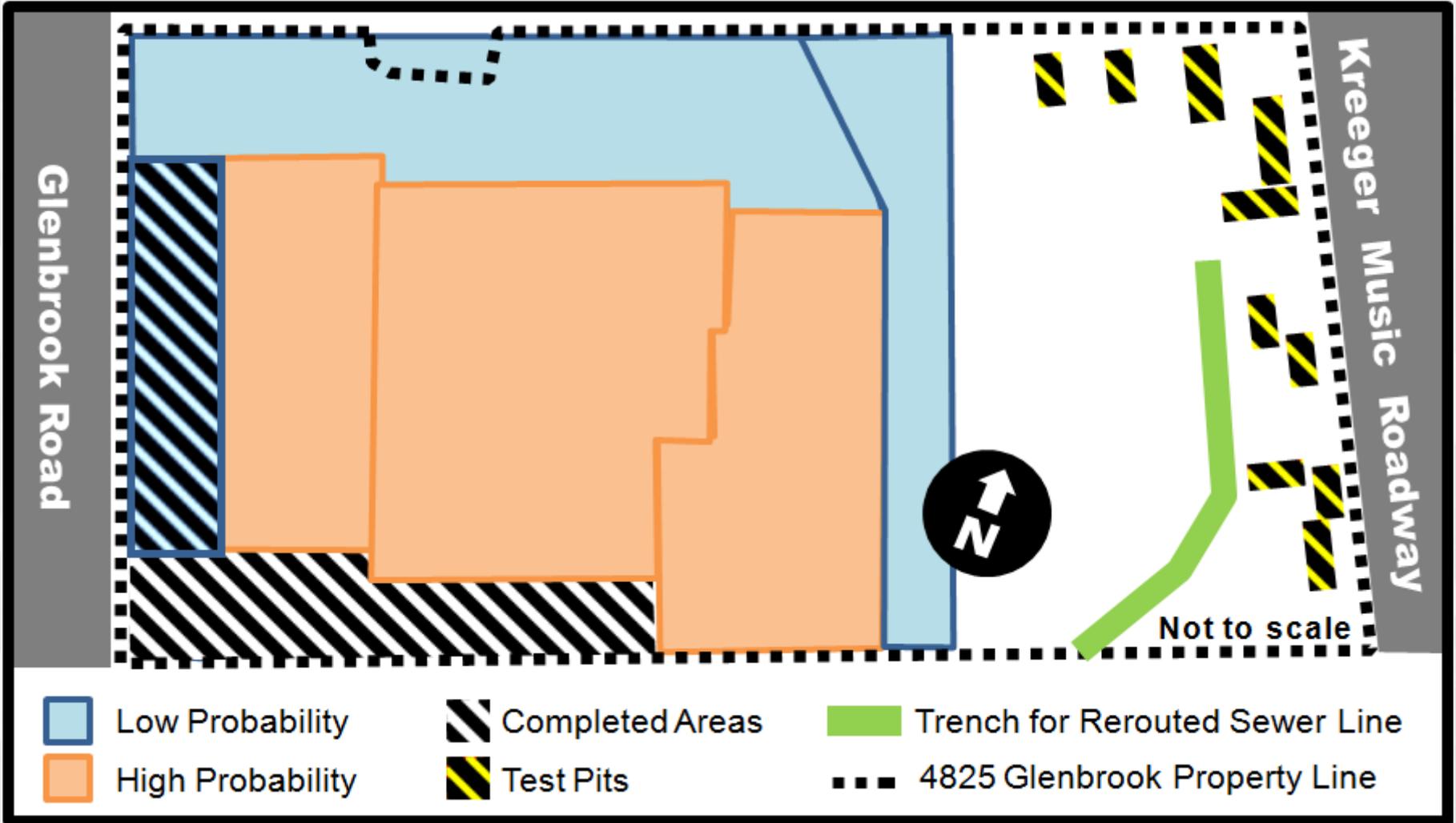
**For this event, 20 existing wells and 10 surface water locations are scheduled for the sampling.**



# 4825 Glenbrook Road



**Update**



# 4825 Glenbrook Road

## Site Preparation

Utility relocation efforts underway  
in the backyard



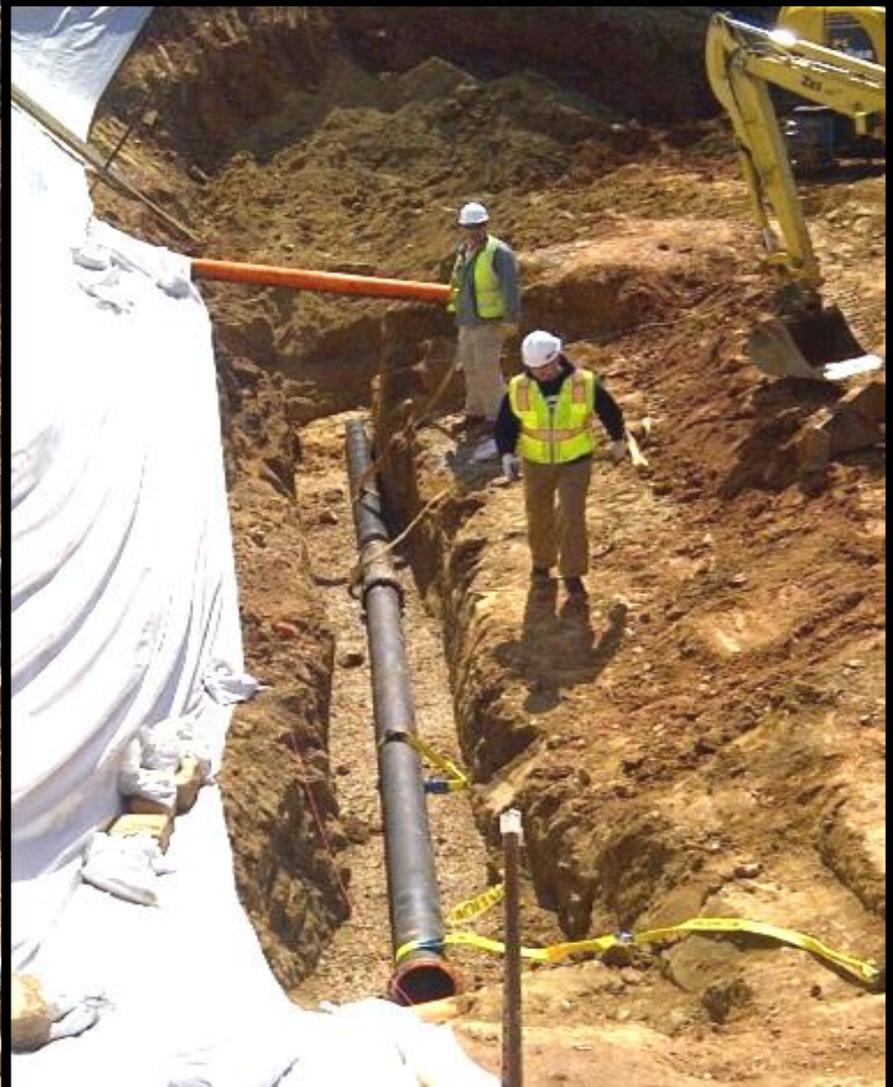
During the week of March 25, crews began utility relocation as part of the preparations for high probability work.

Snow and rain slowed our progress.



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# Utility trenching





# 4825 Glenbrook Road Site Preparation



**Backyard Utility Relocation Activities**

To date, no World War I / American University Experiment Station debris or visual signs of contamination have been found.

Additionally, there were no air monitoring detections of any chemicals of concern during this initial low probability work.



# 4825 Glenbrook Road

## Site Preparation

Once utility relocation is complete, the crews will begin installing the soldier pile for slope stabilization, and setting up the Engineering Control Structure and other site support equipment.



# 4825 Glenbrook Road

## Schedule Update

- **February - March 2013**
  - ✓ *Initial Low Probability Work completed*
    - Test pits in backyard
- **April - Summer 2013**
  - Site preparations underway*
    - Relocate water and sewer utilities
    - Install soldier piles to support embankments
  - Engineering Control Structure set up*
- **Summer 2013 – Spring 2014**
  - High Probability Excavation*
- **Spring 2014**
  - Final Low Probability Excavation*
  - Site Restoration*



# Potentially Responsible Party (PRP) Investigation Underway

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The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers is conducting an investigation regarding the post-AUES development of certain properties, focusing on 4825 Glenbrook Rd., 4835 Glenbrook Rd., and the Public Safety Building at 4400 Massachusetts Avenue.

- The Corps is seeking information regarding the development of these properties, and encourages those who have information about this matter to contact the PRP investigation contractor:

Watermark, Inc. [**Toll free number: (866) 383-7327**].

- **Jon Owens**, Assistant District Counsel for USACE Baltimore:  
(410) 962-3385



# Spring Valley FUDS Restoration Advisory Board

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## *Community Items*



# **Spring Valley FUDS Restoration Advisory Board**

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## **Open Discussion**

### **RAB Meetings - 2013 Schedule**

- **Proposed upcoming meetings:**

**May 14, July 9, September 10  
& November 12**



# Spring Valley FUDS Restoration Advisory Board

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**The Corps will continue to provide** monthly project updates and weekly Glenbrook Road project updates as part of our outreach effort.

## Upcoming Agenda Items

- Groundwater Study Overview - Summer/Fall
- 4825 Glenbrook Road Health Consultation Update (ATSDR) - TBD
- Report of Site Wide Risk Assessment Review (ERT)- TBD



# Spring Valley FUDS Restoration Advisory Board

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- **Public Comments**
- **Wrap-Up**



**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Spring Valley Joint Restoration Advisory Board Meeting  
St. David's Episcopal Church  
Minutes of the April 9, 2013 RAB Meeting**

<b>RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT AT THIS MEETING</b>	
Dan Noble	Military Co-Chair/USACE, Spring Valley MMRP Manager
Linda Argo	At Large Representative – American University
Mary Bresnahan	Community Member
Ralph Cantral	Community Member
Kathleen Connell	Community Member
Dr. Peter deFur (represented by Leigh Isaac)	Environmental Stewardship Concepts/RAB TAPP Consultant
Paul Dueffert	Community Member
Alma Gates	At Large Representative – Horace Mann Elementary School
Steve Hirsh	Agency Representative – US Environmental Protection Agency Region III
William Krebs	Community Member
Lawrence Miller	Community Member
Lee Monsein	Community Member
Malcolm Pritzker	Community Member
James Sweeney	Agency Representative – District Department of the Environment
George Vassiliou	Community Member
John Wheeler	Community Member
<b>RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT AT THIS MEETING</b>	
Greg Beumel	Community Co-Chair
Mary Douglas	Community Member
Tom Smith	Community Member
<b>ATTENDING PROJECT PERSONNEL</b>	
Brenda Barber	USACE, Spring Valley Project Manager
Lan Reeser	USACE, Technical Manager
Clem Gaines	USACE, Public Affairs

Carrie Johnston	Spring Valley Community Outreach Program Manager
Lattie Smart	Spring Valley Community Outreach Program
Rebecca Yahiel	Spring Valley Community Outreach Program
Jessica Bruland	ERT
<b>HANDOUTS FROM THE MEETING</b>	
I. Final Agenda for the April 9, 2013 RAB Meeting	
II. Army Corps of Engineers Presentation	

**AGENDA**

**Starting Time:** The April 9, 2013 RAB meeting began at 7:06 PM.

**I. Administrative Items**

**A. Co-Chair Updates**

William Krebs, RAB Member, opened the meeting. He filled in for Greg Beumel, Community Co-Chair, who cannot attend the next couple of RAB meetings. He turned the meeting over to Dan Noble.

Dan Noble, Spring Valley Project Manager and Military Co-Chair, welcomed the group. He reviewed the evening's agenda.

**B. Introduce Guests**

Leigh Isaac of Environmental Stewardship Concepts represented Dr. Peter deFur, RAB TAPP Consultant, at the meeting.

D. Noble mentioned that Officer McElwee of the District of Columbia Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) 2<sup>nd</sup> District was unable to attend the meeting. No questions were asked regarding the 2<sup>nd</sup> District's role in current Spring Valley operations.

**C. General Announcements**

D. Noble announced that recent website updates include the February 2013 RAB minutes and associated materials. Additionally, a binder containing all 2012 RAB minutes and associated materials are now available at the Information Repository at the Tenley-Friendship Branch Library.

D. Noble announced that the finalized Public Protection Plan (PPP) is also available on the project website and a hard copy is available at the Information Repository at the Tenley-Friendship Branch Library. [As described at the March 2013 and previous RAB meetings, this document highlights all of the safety plans and protocols to be established in advance for communicating with the surrounding neighborhood, to ensure that needs are met for all residents whose properties touch or overlap with the SIP zone.]

D. Noble mentioned that a new RAB member orientation is scheduled for April 25, 2013 in the afternoon. Spring Valley project information will be reviewed during this orientation for the benefit of new RAB members (Ralph Cantral), and questions and discussion of project topics are encouraged. All interested RAB members are welcome to attend for a refresher on the Spring Valley project.

**D. Task Group Updates**

No task group updates were presented.

## II. USACE Updates

D. Noble, Spring Valley Project Manager and Military Co-Chair, provided a brief status update on the groundwater investigation.

B. Barber, Spring Valley Project Manager, provided a brief status update on the current low-probability schedule, tentative high-probability schedule, and progress to date for 4825 Glenbrook Road.

### A. Groundwater Investigation

[Previous groundwater study efforts were described at the November 2010 RAB meeting as well as various earlier RAB meetings. Additional planned groundwater study efforts were described at the May 2011 RAB meeting as well as various subsequent RAB meetings. Recently completed and upcoming groundwater study efforts were summarized at the January 2012 through March 2013 RAB meetings.]

**Semi-annual Sampling:** As described at the March 2013 RAB meeting, selected existing groundwater monitoring wells and surface water monitoring locations will be sampled twice annually for the next few years. These locations include a total of 20 shallow and deep wells and a total of 10 surface water locations. The first semi-annual sampling event is tentatively scheduled for this month, as part of the extended 2013 groundwater monitoring program. USACE field sampling crews will be present in the neighborhood along with Community Outreach. Results will be shared with the RAB pending receipt of laboratory analytical data, tentatively in late summer 2013.

Question from Kent Slowinski, ANC3D Commissioner and former RAB Member – Were you able to resolve the sampling issue on National Park Service (NPS) property?

D. Noble clarified that permission was not granted to conduct sampling on NPS property.

Question from K. Slowinski, ANC3D Commissioner and former RAB Member – Was the permit the issue? Did it turn out to be the wrong permit?

D. Noble confirmed that property access was denied due to an issue with the permitting process between federal agencies, focused on Department of Interior (DOI) policies for allowing USACE to enter their properties to conduct field work. This issue is under discussion at agency levels much higher than the Spring Valley project team, and to date remains unresolved.

Question from Allen Hengst, Audience Member – Is tracing the original source of the perchlorate still considered one of the goals of the groundwater monitoring program? This goal was established at the beginning, according to an issue of the Corps' pondent distributed about three years ago. Do you still plan to pursue this goal via the new deep well installations and continued groundwater monitoring?

D. Noble clarified that upcoming groundwater study efforts are primarily focused on further delineating the extent of perchlorate and arsenic contamination in groundwater.

Question from A. Hengst, Audience Member – Is locating the perchlorate source still considered one of your goals?

D. Noble replied that the perchlorate source area investigation was recently completed and all associated results were received and evaluated.

Question from A. Hengst, Audience Member – Do you know what the source of the perchlorate is?

D. Noble clarified that although the nature of the source is unknown; the general location has been narrowed down to the vicinity of Kreeger Hall on AU's campus.

Comment from A. Hengst, Audience Member – AU recently removed all of the shrubbery from this vicinity of interest.

D. Noble replied that this vegetation removal effort is unrelated to Spring Valley project activities.

## **B. Military Munitions Response Program**

### **4825 Glenbrook Road**

#### **Completed Schedule Components**

**Completed Documents:** Finalized 4825 Glenbrook Road CERCLA-related documents are posted on the Spring Valley project website and are also available at the Information Repository at the Tenley-Friendship Branch Library. These documents include the Decision Document, which formally selects Alternative 5 (removal of the house and cleanup to residential standards providing for unrestricted future use of the property) as the cleanup alternative for the 4825 Glenbrook Road site. These documents also include the Demolition and Disposal Plan, which describes the removal and disposal of the 4825 Glenbrook Road house and associated debris.

Finalized documents also include the 4825 Glenbrook Road Remedial Design and Remedial Action Work Plan (which includes the Public Protection Plan), which describes the intrusive activities designed to achieve remedial objectives, including details of high-probability excavation engineering controls and safety procedures. (Details of this plan were shared with the RAB and the community at the October 2012 Joint RAB/Community meeting, with status updates provided at the January and February 2013 RAB meeting.)

**Demolition Phase:** House demolition was completed in late November 2012, after the Thanksgiving holiday. Remaining house structural components are limited to the basement foundation walls and floor. The site is currently secured with fencing, and a fall protection system was installed to minimize worker safety risks at the site. (Details of this effort were shared with the RAB and the community at the January 2013 RAB meeting.)

**Site Preparations for Low Probability Work:** USACE completed site preparations for low probability investigative and remedial action work in January 2013. (Details of this effort were shared with the RAB and the community at the January and February 2013 RAB meetings.)

**Low Probability Soil Removal Completed To Date:** The first phase of the low probability effort began on January 28, 2013 and was completed in February 2013. This effort consisted of excavating a small portion of the front sidewalk, followed by confirmation sampling and restoration. (Details of this effort were shared with the RAB and the community at the February 2013 RAB meeting.)

The second low probability effort began on February 19, 2013 and was completed in early March 2013. This effort consisted of excavating all remaining backyard test pits to competent saprolite. No evidence of AUES-related debris, visible soil staining, or air monitoring detections of chemicals of potential concern were observed during this effort. (Details of this effort were shared with the RAB and the community at the March 2013 RAB meeting.)

The last initial low probability soil removal effort began on March 25, 2013 and is currently underway. This effort consists of relocating a sewer utility that could interfere with implementation of remedial activities at the site. No air monitoring detections of chemicals of potential concern were observed to date. This effort will be completed concurrently with the high-probability site preparations described below.

Utility relocation efforts were delayed by numerous snow and rain weather events. The sewer and water utilities that serve AU's campus were also encountered deeper than anticipated based on as-built drawings (18 feet actual depth versus 13 feet anticipated depth), and the additional volume of excavated soil increased the total cost and duration of the effort.

(Remaining low probability efforts (second phase) include a small portion of the driveway and a small portion of the backyard behind the retaining wall, and are scheduled following completion of high-probability efforts.)

**Site Preparations for High-Probability Work Completed to Date:** Initial site preparations for high-probability work are currently underway. Completed efforts include installation of a temporary fence along the 4825/4801 Glenbrook Road property boundary and a temporary construction fence along the 4825/4835 Glenbrook Road property boundary. Installation of soldier piles, which provide protection during deeper backyard and house foundation excavations, will begin this spring, followed by setting up the Engineering Control Structure (ECS) and associated support equipment. High-probability excavation is currently scheduled to begin this Summer.

#### **Potentially Responsible Party Investigation**

(Details of this investigation were presented at the January 2013 RAB meeting.)

**Scope:** USACE is conducting an investigation regarding the post-AUES development of three properties within the Spring Valley FUDS, focusing on 4825 Glenbrook Road, 4835 Glenbrook Road, and the Public Safety Building at 4400 Massachusetts Avenue on AU's campus. The purpose is to identify additional potentially responsible parties (PRP) for the presence and/or extent of contamination at these sites.

As part of this investigation, USACE is actively seeking information regarding the development of these properties. Anyone who has information about this matter are encouraged to contact USACE's PRP investigation contractor: Watermark, Inc. Contact information and brief details can be left on the contractor's toll free phone number [(866) 383-7327] and Watermark, Inc. will return the call to conduct a comprehensive interview (unless the caller chooses to remain anonymous). The resulting information shared with Watermark, Inc. will be documented in USACE's PRP case.

Any questions regarding this investigation process can be directed to Jon Owens, Assistant District Counsel for USACE Baltimore.

#### **Tentative Schedule (Next Steps)**

All site preparation and remedial action dates from this point forward are tentative and will be determined pending resolution of any remaining issues.

**Site Cleanup:** The tentative remedial action schedule was recently updated to reflect the revised cleanup time frame and currently extends from late November 2012 (the completed demolition phase) through Spring 2014. This schedule is subject to change pending resolution of any remaining issues and any findings of concern at the site.

- The remaining initial phase of low the probability effort began in February 2013 and is currently underway. This effort includes relocation of a sewer utility that could interfere with implementation of remedial activities at the site.
- Site preparations for high-probability work began in March 2013 and are currently underway. Following completion of the initial low probability effort, the site preparations will be completed, tentatively, by Summer 2013. These preparations include completion of water and sewer utility relocation efforts, along with installation of soldier piles to support soil embankments. These preparations also include installation of all engineering controls, tabletop exercises, and equipment testing to ensure that all equipment functions properly.
- High-probability excavation is currently scheduled for Summer 2013 through Spring 2014.
- Remaining low probability removal actions in Areas A and B (including the driveway and a small portion of the backyard) are scheduled for Spring 2014 following completion of the high probability excavations.

- Site restoration is tentatively scheduled for Spring 2014. The project team anticipates turning the remediated and restored property over to the property owner (AU) in Spring 2014.

Question from Kathleen Connell, RAB Member – Will the sewer line be installed in a new location?

B. Barber clarified that the sewer line is being temporarily relocated onto the neighboring property. Upon completion of high-probability efforts, the sewer line will be restored in its original location and continue to serve as a utility for AU's campus.

Question from W. Krebs, RAB Member – Was the neighboring property's rock garden removed during sewer line relocation?

B. Barber replied that the rock garden was not damaged or removed. Landscape impacts were limited to some bamboo and limited shrubs, which will be restored after all high-probability and the remaining low-probability efforts are completed. These landscape impacts occurred within a temporary easement extending 8 feet onto the neighboring property.

Question from K. Slowinski, ANC3D Commissioner and former RAB Member – Was the sewer line buried in saprolite?

B. Barber and D. Noble replied that the sewer line was encountered approximately 18 to 20 feet below ground surface (bgs), beneath the steeply sloped backyard hill. The sewer line is probably located close to saprolite. Overtop of the sewer line, much of the removed soil consisted of previously placed clean backfill and overburden. The photograph shown in the presentation was captured from the Kreeger Music Roadway and project trailers portion of the excavation area

Comment from K. Slowinski, ANC3D Commissioner and former RAB Member – It looks like some saprolite had to be excavated in order to reach the sewer line.

B. Barber confirmed that mechanical soil excavation of this entire area was required, which caused numerous schedule delays.

Question from K. Slowinski, ANC3D Commissioner and former RAB Member – If previous property workers were able to bury the sewer line in saprolite, why couldn't the construction works have buried AUES-related items in saprolite at the property?

B. Barber explained that any AUES-related items in the backyard would have been encountered during repeated utility excavations and test pit excavations in the backyard.

Comment from K. Slowinski, ANC3D Commissioner and former RAB Member – During a previous sewer line excavation effort, a 75-mm AUES-related item was found.

B. Barber replied that she is not disputing this fact.

Comment from K. Slowinski, ANC3D Commissioner and former RAB Member – Only portions of the backyard were excavated.

B. Barber clarified that essentially the entire backyard has been excavated to saprolite, including soil removal and grading that was required for installation of engineering control equipment support pads. The backyard has been excavated four times to relocate utilities.

K. Slowinski disagreed with the implication that the entire backyard has been excavated four times.

Question from Kathleen Connell, RAB Member – Have you received any further updates regarding the concerns of Christine Dietrich and her family, who live directly across the street from 4825 Glenbrook Road? Do these residents feel more relaxed and comfortable with the remedial action process at this point? Are they still in residence on Glenbrook Road, or have they chosen to move elsewhere until the remedial action is completed?

B. Barber replied that USACE has no plans to assist with relocation efforts.

K. Connell clarified her question below.

Question from K. Connell, RAB Member – Have C. Dietrich and her family left the neighborhood voluntarily?

B. Barber replied that, to her knowledge, this is not the case.

N. Wells added that these residents continue to pursue solutions to the issue of relocating their children for a portion of the remedial action time frame.

N. Wells mentioned that C. Dietrich, who previously belonged to N. Wells' single member district within the ANC, now belongs to the single member district under Tom Smith, ANC3D Commissioner.

[Details of this issue were provided at the September 2012 RAB meeting, the October 2012 Joint RAB/Community meeting, and the November 2012 RAB meeting. In summary, C. Dietrich's family resides directly across the street from the 4825 Glenbrook Road site and expressed strong concerns for their safety during the upcoming remedial effort. As described at the March 2013 RAB meeting, USACE Headquarters issued their final administrative decision regarding C. Dietrich's relocation appeal. This relocation request was denied and the final decision was delivered to USACE and the homeowner.]

Question from K. Connell, RAB Member – When do you anticipate high-probability efforts will begin?

B. Barber replied that high-probability soil removal is tentatively scheduled for Summer 2013 through Spring 2014.

Comment from K. Connell, RAB Member – C. Dietrich and her family will remain concerned for approximately a one-year time frame (now through Spring 2014).

B. Barber acknowledged this.

Question from K. Connell, RAB Member – Have you needed to adjust any of your safety-related probabilities as a result of findings or occurrences to date?

B. Barber clarified that no probability adjustments have been made. All site efforts to date have been completed as planned, with no AUES-related debris findings or air monitoring detections at the site.

Question from K. Slowinski, ANC3D Commissioner and former RAB Member – When you say that high-probability soil removal will begin during the summer, do you mean the month of August?

B. Barber confirmed that based on a schedule-related meeting today, high-probability efforts will likely begin in mid-August 2013.

K. Slowinski thanked B. Barber for the information.

Question from Leigh Giangreco, AU Student Reporter – As I understand it, AU students will be informed during the summer about the high-probability excavation, but a different campus community will arrive at the end of August 2013.

B. Barber replied that, as she understands the situation, AU will brief all students on campus once USACE receives and relays notification of the official high-probability soil removal start date. USACE will provide additional assistance to AU if requested.

Linda Argo, At Large Representative for American University, explained that college campus populations change significantly over the course of the summer. These population changes include students, conference attendees, staff, and faculty. This is the primary reason AU has chosen to initially target the campus community present during the summer. AU plans to brief the campus community approximately 2 weeks prior to the start date for high-probability efforts. Additional notifications will be provided as the campus population changes, including the arrival of freshmen in August and the return of all other students in early September.

L. Argo emphasized that AU has been in contact with USACE regarding this effort. AU is using the planned and adjusted high-probability effort time frames to calibrate their plans for informing the campus community. AU has successfully dealt with the 4825 Glenbrook Road high-probability excavation scenario in the past. Prior to informing the campus community, all existing outreach information will be updated and refined to reflect specific details of the upcoming high-probability effort.

B. Barber added that USACE communicates with AU on a weekly basis and will remain in contact with AU regarding the high-probability schedule and campus community notification plans.

Question from Nan Wells, ANC3D Commissioner – Does AU plan to post high-probability excavation information on the Spring Valley project portion of the university website?

L. Argo replied that she does not know the exact extent of information that will be posted on the AU website with regard to high-probability efforts.

Question from N. Wells, ANC3D Commissioner – Will the high-probability notification on the AU website remain available continuously as additional students arrive on campus?

L. Argo confirmed this. The posted information will be a reliable source for obtaining additional information beyond that which is shared as part of the official announcement to the campus community.

Question from John Wheeler, RAB Member – What type of information are you seeking for the potentially responsible parties (PRP) investigation?

B. Barber explained that USACE is specifically seeking information pertaining to the developer and any workers, such as construction subcontractors and landscapers, who might be willing to come forward and provide details about their activities at these properties. It is possible that AUES-related contamination may have been shifted or moved during construction of these buildings.

Question from Malcolm Pritzker, RAB Member – Why were these three buildings selected in particular?

B. Barber replied that these three buildings were identified for the PRP investigation based on the nature and extent of contamination observed at these properties.

Question from A. Hengst, Audience Member – Does the PRP investigation progress to date include the Public Safety Building?

B. Barber clarified that progress to date has focused on the two Glenbrook Road addresses.

Question from Mary Bresnahan, RAB Member – Has a significant amount of remediation occurred at the third address (4400 Massachusetts Avenue)?

B. Barber confirmed this.

L. Argo added that 4400 Massachusetts Avenue is the official address for the main AU campus.

Question from M. Bresnahan, RAB Member – When you refer to 4400 Massachusetts Avenue as an address of interest, you are not referring to a specific building?

B. Barber clarified that the PRP investigation for this address focuses specifically on the Public Safety Building on AU's campus.

Lee Monsein, RAB Member, noted that his campus mail sometimes gets delivered to this address, as it represents the entire campus.

Question from M. Bresnahan, RAB Member – For clarification purposes, the Public Safety Building is not considered a separate building with a separate address?

B. Barber confirmed that the Public Safety Building is one of many separate buildings that are represented as a group by a single address.

Question from Leigh Giangreco, AU Student Reporter – Is there a particular reason you are focusing on the Public Safety Building on AU’s campus? Has this building not been investigated yet?

B. Barber clarified that the Public Safety Building was investigated and completed in the late 2008 or early 2009 time frame.

Question from J. Wheeler, RAB Member – Have you completed all Public Safety Building efforts?

D. Noble confirmed this.

Question from K. Slowinski, ANC3D Commissioner and former RAB Member – Why was Kreeger Hall excluded from the list of buildings of interest? The highest perchlorate levels in groundwater to date were detected in the vicinity of this building, and the highest arsenic levels in groundwater to date were detected approximately 20 feet east of the building.

D. Noble acknowledged these facts and clarified that the groundwater contamination was not the issue of interest. The three buildings on the PRP search list were selected because they were not constructed by the property owner (AU) and very little if any construction information was available. In contrast, Kreeger Hall construction information can be obtained from AU. The PRP contractor is seeking individuals who participated in the construction of these buildings because they may be able to share information that would be of interest to the Spring Valley project team.

Question from L. Giangreco, AU Student Reporter – After reviewing the history of buildings on the south side of AU’s campus, it appears that the Public Safety Building was previously used as a fraternity house. Have you tried contacting the fraternity who lived there?

B. Barber explained that the PRP contractor, Watermark, is currently in the process of contacting the fraternity.

Question from K. Slowinski, ANC3D Commissioner and former RAB Member – Wasn’t Jack Child Hall also originally used as a fraternity building? Also, there is a third former fraternity building.

L. Giangreco confirmed this and noted that Hurst Hall was the third fraternity building.

### **III. Community Items**

No primary community items were scheduled.

D. Noble initiated discussion on the future frequency of RAB Meetings.

#### **RAB Discussion of Future RAB Meeting Schedule**

Suggestion from D. Noble, Spring Valley Project Manager and Military Co-Chair – The Spring Valley project has reached the point where most investigations have been completed. One major field effort is underway at the 4825 Glenbrook Road site, along with ongoing site-wide groundwater activities and a large administrative effort focused on writing the Site-Wide RI report. USACE would like to propose that we, as the RAB, meet less frequently during the year to reflect the decreased volume of monthly updates.

K. Connell, RAB Member, seconded this motion.

D. Noble added that RAB meetings are currently not held in August and December. Both of these are even-numbered months, and the remaining even-numbered months could be dropped as well. The RAB would meet every second Tuesday of every odd-numbered month, for a total of six RAB meetings per year. At any time, if more frequent updates are needed, the RAB can schedule an extra interim meeting or decide to increase the meeting frequency.

Comment from W. Krebs, RAB Member – G. Beumel shared his position on this topic during a recent phone conversation. He agreed with reducing the frequency of future RAB meetings under the condition

that the RAB be notified if anything unusual is found at the 4825 Glenbrook Road site or anywhere else within the Spring Valley FUDS. This will ensure the RAB is kept apprised of potential findings of concern or significance, and if necessary a RAB meeting information can be shared via e-mail, a telephone call or with an in-person meeting.

M. Pritzker replied that he is in favor of the proposed reduced RAB meeting schedule, provided that USACE adheres to G. Beumel's caveat.

Comment from D. Noble, Spring Valley Project Manager and Military Co-Chair – USACE will continue to provide monthly project updates and weekly 4825 Glenbrook Road project updates as part of our outreach effort. Weekly progress updates for the 4825 Glenbrook Road site are posted on the project website, which provides a method by which the RAB can remain informed. Once the high-probability phase begins, these weekly updates will be enhanced with photographs and a spreadsheet of AUES-related findings to date. This spreadsheet and associated photographs will be similar to the weekly updates in 2010 (which replaced the previous philosophy of sharing the number but not the type of recovered items). Examples of spreadsheet contents include a closed-cavity intact container and associated laboratory analyses from Edgewood Chemical Biological Center (ECBC).

Question from N. Wells, ANC3D Commissioner – May the audience share public comments on this proposal, especially considering that elected representatives of the public are present?

W. Krebs replied that RAB comments and discussion should be completed first, followed by public comments on this topic.

Question from Larry Miller, RAB Member – If the RAB meets less frequently, will we still receive the detailed project update on a monthly basis? This update is often distributed prior to each RAB meeting.

D. Noble confirmed this.

L. Miller replied that reducing the frequency of RAB meetings makes sense to him personally, as long as USACE makes a commitment to convene the RAB to provide timely information on findings of concern.

Comment from W. Krebs, RAB Member – The RAB should also be alerted if site findings include the equivalent of the Maximum Credible Event (MCE).

D. Noble confirmed that the RAB will be informed if high-probability efforts are temporarily suspended and the 4825 Glenbrook Road site is temporarily shut down due to encountering the MCE.

Comment from M. Bresnahan, RAB Member – I love the quality of the weekly progress updates; they are fabulous, and I have heard my neighbors commenting positively when I share the site status with them. It would be great if USACE could provide instant updates to the RAB in the event that unexpected findings are encountered during high-probability activities and are followed by suspension and re-evaluation of site efforts.

D. Noble acknowledged this.

Question from Larry Miller, RAB Member – During even-numbered months when the RAB does not meet, will your staff be available to answer questions from RAB members or the public?

D. Noble confirmed that the Community Outreach team is regularly available via e-mail or phone, and they will have access to information shared about site progress.

(The Community Outreach team can be contacted regularly at the office: 410-962-0157. Or via email: [Carrie.R.Johnston@usace.army.mil](mailto:Carrie.R.Johnston@usace.army.mil) and [Rebecca.E.Yahiel@usace.army.mil](mailto:Rebecca.E.Yahiel@usace.army.mil))

Question from L. Miller, RAB Member – How frequently are Partnering meetings held?

D. Noble replied that Partnering meetings are scheduled on an as-needed basis. The current frequency is approximately every two months, typically separated by a gap of 60 to 75 days.

Question from L. Monsein, RAB Member – Is it an appropriate time to second the motion to reduce the frequency of RAB meetings?

K. Connell replied that she already second this motion earlier during the discussion.

### **Community Discussion of Future RAB Meeting Schedule**

W. Krebs opened the discussion to include community input.

Question from A. Hengst, Audience Member – Would it possible to produce the draft RAB minutes within one month following the meeting, instead of waiting two months until just before the next meeting? This would be beneficial for refreshing memories during the interim.

D. Noble replied that it currently takes approximately one month to draft, review, and produce the RAB minutes. Generally these minutes are sent out approximately a week prior to the next RAB meeting, which gives the RAB and the community an opportunity to read through the minutes and let USACE know if they have any issues or concerns regarding the contents. Finalization of the previous meeting's minutes takes place around the time of each new meeting. Other distribution possibilities include posting the draft minutes on the website for public review and comment.

D. Noble asked for RAB opinions on this topic.

L. Miller replied that producing the minutes earlier during the interim, without complicating anyone's schedules, would provide an opportunity to review the minutes earlier. The finalized minutes can be reviewed later, around the time of the RAB meeting, to refresh people's memories.

Question from N. Wells, ANC3D Commissioner – When you previously asked for comments on the new high-probability phase of the remedial action, I expressed the opinion that timelier and easily accessible information should be available to the public. I was unaware of the weekly progress updates for 4825 Glenbrook Road. Are these updates available to the public?

B. Barber confirmed that weekly updates are posted on the Spring Valley project website, typically by Friday afternoon of each week.

Comment from N. Wells, ANC3D Commissioner – Proactively providing these updates is a good practice, because it ensures that the community remains aware of remedial activities as you move into the high-probability phase. It also ensures that the community understands how they can contact the project team. A monthly progress review published in the *Northwest Current* would also be useful.

N. Wells emphasized her regret that the RAB will meet less frequently, but it makes sense as long as more progress-related materials are provided and made available to the public.

Question from K. Slowinski, ANC3D Commissioner and former RAB Member – Do you still plan to provide a daily report of AUES-related and other items that you find at the 4825 Glenbrook Road site?

D. Noble clarified that he does not think daily reports were ever provided.

K. Slowinski noted that during previous high-probability operations at the 4825 Glenbrook Road site, AUES-related items were recovered within the blast containment structure. Immediately after secure transport of these items to the federal property, USACE informed the community of these findings.

D. Noble recalled that when he became involved with the Spring Valley project, preparations were underway to return to the site and excavate Pit 3. At that time, an operational restriction prevented USACE from publically sharing details of findings on a frequent basis, and the project team simply shared the news that additional AUES-related items were found. During each monthly RAB meeting, USACE was permitted to share the previous month's specific findings in step-wise fashion, each time

adding to the previous month's spreadsheet of findings. This was the protocol for sharing site findings for a long time. There have not been daily updates on AUES-related findings in the approximate 6 year time frame that D. Noble has worked on the Spring Valley project.

K. Slowinski disagreed with this statement, and noted that a review of the project archives will reveal daily reports stating what items were found and their status relative to being safely secured at the federal property.

D. Noble reiterated that daily reports will not be provided for the upcoming high-probability effort.

Comment from K. Slowinski, ANC3D Commissioner and former RAB Member – I am in favor of scheduling RAB meetings every other month, if the USACE is willing to briefly present information at ANC meetings during the interim even-numbered months. This would provide an opportunity for the community to ask questions, and would ensure that USACE is available to the community.

D. Noble explained that the Spring Valley project team does not want to commit to attend a total of 12 meetings per year, one benefit of fewer RAB meetings is that the USACE SV project team will only travel to the community 6 meetings per year. D. Noble declined to commit to USACE attendance at ANC meetings.

#### **RAB Vote (Future RAB Meeting Schedule)**

**Summary:** The RAB will meet six times per year, on the second Tuesday evening of every odd-numbered month. Additional meetings will be scheduled as needed to address important or urgent topics. The RAB will be promptly informed of any significant AUES-related findings or occurrences during the remaining remedial efforts.

M. Pritzker proposed a formal motion to reduce the frequency of RAB meetings.

K. Connell seconded this motion.

All RAB members voted in favor of the proposed revised RAB meeting schedule.

Question from K. Connell, RAB Member – Is the next RAB meeting scheduled for June 2013?

D. Noble clarified that proposed upcoming meetings through the end of 2013 are as follows: May 14, July 9, September 10, and November 12.

#### **IV. Open Discussion and Agenda Development**

##### **A. Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 14, 2013**

Upcoming meetings will be held in July, September and November 2013.

RAB meetings are not held in even numbered months.

##### **B. Future Agenda Topics**

- Report by ERT on Site-Wide Risk Assessment Review (TBD)
- Groundwater Study Conclusions To Date (Summer/Fall)
- Update on the ATSDR Health Consultation for 4825 Glenbrook Road (TBD)

##### **C. Open Discussion**

D. Noble provided brief updates on two future agenda topics.

**ATSDR Health Consultation for Glenbrook Road:** The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) continues to prepare the Health Consultation for 4825 Glenbrook Road. The draft

submission time frame is uncertain, but ATSDR does still intend to allow a public comment period for the document's contents.

**Human Health Risk Assessment (HHRA) for Remedial Investigation (RI) Report:** Details of the HHRA approach and contents will be shared with the RAB later during 2013. This status update will follow the same approach as the March 2013 RAB meeting presentation on the details of the Munitions and Explosives of Concern Hazard Assessment (MEC HA). These assessments (the HHRA and the MEC HA) are two of many components that comprise the overall Site-Wide Remedial Investigation (RI) Report, which will eventually be finalized and made available for public review.

D. Noble asked if there were any additional agenda topics the RAB wishes to discuss.

Question from L. Miller, RAB Member – Can you provide an update on the effects of sequestration on the remedial action progress?

[Potential impacts of upcoming sequester furloughs associated with government budget issues were briefly described at the March 2013 RAB meeting.]

D. Noble replied that positive news was received regarding the availability of specialists who travel to the Spring Valley FUDS from various locations nationwide and provide valuable on-site assistance. These specialists will be permitted to remain in travel status for work-related activities on their scheduled furlough days, and will not have to frequently return home.

D. Noble added that the total number of furlough days for USACE has officially decreased from 22 to 14 days, and these furloughs are not anticipated to begin until late June or early July 2013. No other updated information has become available to date.

L. Miller added that at least this news addresses the major issue of travel constraints.

Comment from W. Krebs, RAB Member – We are pleased that Steve Hirsh, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region III, was able to attend the meeting in spite of furloughs.

S. Hirsh mentioned that their agency's furloughs are scheduled to begin in two weeks (late April 2013) and the impacts were reduced from 13 days to 10 days.

D. Noble added that to date USACE has not received their furlough notices.

No additional RAB comments or questions were shared.

## V. Public Comments

Question from K. Slowinski, ANC3D Commissioner and former RAB Member – Approximately two or three years ago, DC Water announced that they planned to replace the water main pipes along Spring Valley neighborhood streets including Rockwood Parkway, Glenbrook Road, and 49<sup>th</sup> Street. DC Water was unable to locate a contractor who demonstrated experience dealing with the types of contamination they could potentially encounter in the Spring Valley FUDS, so the project was dropped. Would it be possible for USACE to work with DC Water on this project? Chemical and biological experts will be on-site during upcoming 4825 Glenbrook Road high-probability excavations, and additional monitoring of soil and air could be performed for DC Water water main replacement.

D. Noble explained that USACE and DDOE have met with DC Water a couple of times. Based on these discussions, it seems that the project was not delayed due to the unavailability of suitable contractors or USACE assistance. The original project proposal was going to cost the agency more than they had anticipated, and DC Water had to start from scratch and re-advertise their request for proposals. The city is working on their own schedule and is not being held up by USACE.

K. Slowinski clarified that DC Water is not part of the District of Columbia (DC) government. Instead, they are a quasi-federal agency.

D. Noble acknowledged that he is relatively unfamiliar with DC Water's structure. Other than the recent discussions with DC Water personnel, contact is limited to requests for information from USACE, and requests for USACE to attend their meetings.

Question from N. Wells, ANC3D Commissioner – Can you share additional information on the ATSDR's delay in producing the Health Consultation for 4825 Glenbrook Road? What is the name of the individual who is in charge of this report? Where does the ATSDR fit into the organizational structure of federal agencies?

B. Barber replied that the Department of Defense (DoD) works with ATSDR under the U.S. Army Public Health Command (PHC).

S. Hirsh added that ATSDR is a branch of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

B. Barber explained that the internal organizational structure of ATSDR was recently reorganized. Personnel shifting within the ATSDR resulted in schedule delays for projects such as the Health Consultation for 4825 Glenbrook Road. This report is now being prepared by a different group of individuals.

Question from N. Wells, ANC3D Commissioner – How long has the ATSDR report been in preparation? It seems that development of this report began 3 or 4 years ago.

D. Noble and B. Barber clarified that ATSDR began preparing the report approximately two years ago, in mid-2011.

B. Barber added that USACE occasionally contacts ATSDR via e-mail to check on the report status and ask if they require any assistance from USACE. Currently, the ATSDR is trying to resolve and finalize internal issues.

N. Wells commented that based on this information, it sounds as though completing this report is not a very high priority for the ATSDR.

No additional public comments or questions were shared.

D. Noble and W. Krebs thanked everyone for attending.

## **VI. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 PM.