

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Meeting #4 - Barnes Air National Guard Base (ANGB) Restoration Advisory Board (RAB)</b>		
<b>Prepared by</b>	Lisa David/Jacobs		
<b>Location</b>	Lang Auditorium, Westfield Athenaeum and online via WebEx Meeting (v)	<b>Date/Time</b>	July 27, 2023, 6:00 p.m.

<b>RAB Members</b>	<b>Additional Meeting Participants</b>
Col David Halasi-Kun/104 <sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing (FW) Wing Commander, Base Co-chair (v)	Marianne Babinski/Community member
Kathleen Hillman, Community Co-chair	Jennifer Baker/104 <sup>th</sup> FW Environmental Manager
Chris Clark	SSgt Randy Burlingame/104 <sup>th</sup> FW Public Affairs (v)
Kristen Mello	Amy Brand/Jacobs
Kelly Pease	Dr. David Boutt/University of Massachusetts, Technical Assistance for Public Participation (TAPP) Advisor (v)
Caprice Shaw/ Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP)	Chris Brown/National Guard Bureau (NGB) Restoration Program Manager
	Lt. Col Peter Carr/104 FW Vice Wing Commander
	Lisa David/Jacobs (v)
	Keith Freihofer/ANG (v)
	Larisa Lawrence/NGB (v)
	Elaine Magdinec/NGB (v)
	Bridget Matthew-Kae/Community member
	Maj. Brian Morecraft/Judge Advocate General (v)
	Mary O'Connell/Community member
	Jane Okscin/Community member
	Johannah Phelan/Jacobs
	Maj Sarah Sinclair/104 <sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing (v)

(v) virtual attendance

The Barnes ANGB RAB Meeting #4 was held on July 27, 2023, at 6:00 p.m., in the Lang Auditorium of the Westfield Athenaeum, Westfield, MA and online via WebEx. The following notes provide a summary of discussions during and after the presentation and are not intended to serve as a transcript or further explain information provided during the meeting. A copy of the presentation is attached in **Attachment A**.

- 1 The meeting began at 6:00 p.m. with the RAB facilitator, Amy Brand/Jacobs, welcoming participants. Amy reviewed the agenda, provided a WebEx platform overview and meeting guidelines, and then invited the Base Co-chair and Community Co-chair to provide opening remarks.
- 2 Col Halasi-Kun, Base Co-Chair (calling in from Ireland) and Community Co-Chair Kathleen Hillman made opening remarks welcoming and thanking RAB members and community participants.
- 3 Amy confirmed that Community Co-Chair Eric Oulette has resigned from the RAB.
- 4 The April 2023 RAB meeting summary was approved by the RAB and deemed final.
- 5 RAB site tour dates were discussed in light of postponement due to scheduling conflicts. RAB members discussed potential tour dates either immediately before the October RAB meeting or earlier in October (in hopes of avoiding inclement weather.) However, Dr. Boutt, TAPP Advisor, needs to tour the sites earlier. Maj. Sinclair offered to arrange a

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- more immediate tour for Dr. Boutt to fall within the timeline of his contract. Dr. Boutt requested 2-3 months advance notice for the upcoming site tour. Amy agreed to coordinate a tour date with the base.
- 6 Amy discussed procedures regarding how many and what types of community members qualify to serve on the RAB members. Applications will be updated and accepted up to the October 2023 meeting. Amy offered to publish a public notice and distribute a flyer. RAB members agreed to have an ongoing process to recruit and accept RAB members up until the number of RAB members reaches 12.
- 7 Future RAB meeting dates are October 25, 2023, January 25 and April 25, 2024, and the consensus was that future meetings will be hybrid meetings (in-person and virtual).
- 8 Amy presented on the TAPP. Barnes is the first RAB to obtain a TAPP from NGB, awarded to Dr. David Boutt, hydrogeologist and professor at University of Massachusetts. Dr. Boutt introduced himself. His experience includes analyzing hydrogeology across New England. He will review all Barnes ANGB reports on historical environmental investigations, prepare a report on his findings, and present his findings at the October RAB meeting. Dr. Boutt expressed a preference for a site tour in September.
- 9 Amy provided an overview of the federal Technical Assistance Grant (TAG), for which the Barnes RAB is not eligible. Kristen clarified that there is also a Massachusetts state TAG, will reimburse up to \$250,000. TAG questions regarding eligibility and more should be directed to [Nancy.Fitzpatrick@mass.gov](mailto:Nancy.Fitzpatrick@mass.gov) or (617) 997-9474, or Margaret Shaw at [Margaret.Shaw@mass.gov](mailto:Margaret.Shaw@mass.gov) or (617) 874-6467. The deadline for questions is August 25, 2023, and applications are due October 13, 2023. Col. Halasi-Kun and Kristen clarified that the Westfield City Council and WRAFT may qualify for the state TAG, but not the RAB.
- Chris Clark presented on the Strategic Environmental Development and Research Program (SEDRP) and the Environmental Security Technology Certification Program (ESTCP). Dr. Boutt explained that it is focused on translating technical documents.
- 10 Kristen requested that Dr. Boutt bring his portable aquifer model. She suggested the RAB have discussions about grants and interim removal actions including groundwater extraction of contaminated water, cleaning it up, and possible local reuses for the water such as drinking water; partnering with academic institutions for bioremediation, bioencapsulation; wastewater contamination issues. She suggested the RAB continue to apply for TAPP grants to use for health risk and Uniform Federal Policy Quality Assurance Program Plan (UFP-QAPP) and she requested that these topics be added to the upcoming RAB meetings. She also prompted a discussion about uses for the TAPP and various times in the investigation and cleanup process for Barnes.
- 11 Chris Brown presented an overview of environmental remediation at Barnes (slide 18), beginning in 1987. Six sites have been cleaned up and were closed by 2015. One site (Site 2) has limited remaining fuel product under the parking lot which is not moving and has been undergoing long-term monitoring. ANG will be proposing an activity and use limitation, which will be coordinated with the base and the City. Kathy Hillman asked about the review process and schedule for the submittal to the airport and Westfield City Council. Chris responded that it has been submitted to the Base for review, which Jen Baker confirmed. It will then be submitted to City Council for approval. Chris agreed to look into the timeline and process for that submittal.

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- 12 Chris then reviewed the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) process and start of the investigation of per- and polyfluorinated Substances (PFAS). Chris Clark and Kristen asked about per- and polyfluorinated Substances (PFAS), and whether the Barnes investigation is focused only on PFOS and PFOA or will include other PFAS chemicals and how the upcoming EPA decision about PFAS maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) limits affect the investigation. The Remedial Investigation (RI) will include appropriate screening limits set by EPA. When PFAS compounds or limits change, the DoD will issue guidance that will then be implemented by the ANG. Chris Brown confirmed that ANG will be using EPA Method 33 which screens for 40 compounds.
- 13 Chris Brown then provided an update on the status of the Remedial Investigation (RI). Proposals are due at the end of July and then standard contract negotiations will occur in August. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is ANG's contracting agent and is serving as the execution agent for the RI contract. The contract for the Barnes RI should be awarded by the end of FY23 (September 30, 2023).
- 14 Once the RI contract has been awarded, Chris Brown will have a better schedule for the next main step, which is the Unified Federal Policy Quality Assurance Project Plan (UFP-QAPP). Kristen asked about the timing to get a TAPP grant for the UFP-QAPP. Chris Brown indicated that the UFP-QAPP would likely be issued next summer/fall, but that if the timing slipped at all, it would fall into the next fiscal year. If that happened, they might want another TAPP grant before one focused on the UFP-QAPP but that decision is up to the RAB. Chris Clark asked a question about the timing of the UFP-QAPP and when they would start to have data, and Amy Brand and Chris Brown clarified that the UFP-QAPP, which would be available next summer/fall is the "roadmap" for how the RI will be conducted. Dr. Boutt's review of documents may indicate that they should look for certain information in the RI, and that would be incorporated into the UFP-QAPP.
- Major Sinclair clarified that once a TAPP application has been approved and funded by the NGB, she needs 3-4 months to award a contract.
- The RAB will receive the QAPP at the same time as the regulators. Kelly Pease requested that the ANG share the schedule when it is available. Chris Brown agreed he would share the schedule after the RI contract has been awarded. Funding is set aside and programmed for the RI so budget will not impact the schedule. Major Sinclair shared possible RI schedule scenarios. A discussion about when to submit the TAPP for the QAPP and associated health risks and effects ensued. Col. Halasi-Kun, Maj. Sinclair, and Kristen discussed different contract scenarios and options for timing for the TAPP. Amy asked Chris Brown for clarification about the 30-day review process for the UFP-QAPP; the regulators and the RAB would have 30-days to review the document. Following the UFP-QAPP, there will be approximately one year while the RI contractor is developing work plans and beginning sampling. Chris Clark asked about whether TAPP funding can be used to look at potential health risks. Chris Brown reminded the RAB that TAPP funding can be used to explain what is already there in understandable terms. Kristen added that it cannot be used to collect new data.
- 15 Kristen asked about granulated activated carbon (GAC) media appropriation for wells. She is hearing that the DoD is obtaining GAC media to meet their own needs. She asked whether the DoD is going to help the City obtain GAC for its needs if need be? Chris Brown agreed to look into that question. Kristen emphasized that she wants the NGB and

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- the DoD to be aware that the Barnes RAB is asking for help if they have trouble obtaining GAC to make sure they do not have to turn off their water.
- 16 Mary Ann Babinski requested that a calendar be developed to help visualize and share the schedule, especially when we are looking at what activities have to happen before others, and when fiscal years start and end. She clarified that activities can be moved as schedules change – everyone understands that schedules change. Kelly Pease asked whether we could save any time by being ready ahead-of-time before something is awarded, such as having a TAPP grant application approved and ready when the document that will be reviewed is issued.
- 17 Kathy Hillman asked how the RAB will be informed when the survey is completed and the Site 2 package is submitted to City Council. Chris Brown said that he can inform the RAB by email of activities like that between RAB meetings if need be. Kelly Pease confirmed that he would appreciate email updates between meetings as things are happening.
- 18 Chris Clark asked if technologies exist that can remediate PFAS at great depths. Chris Brown indicated that existing technologies are reviewed during the Feasibility Study step in the CERCLA process.
- 19 Kirstin asked for a vote to do a TAPP for the QAPP. Four (4) community members (all in attendance and representing a majority of the total of 7 community members) voted in favor to submit a TAPP application for the QAPP.
- 20 Amy concluded the presentation with a slide showing contact information and websites. In his closing remarks, Col. Halasi-Kun expressed that he is happy to work with the community to come resolutions. He acknowledged that while it is a lengthy process, he will keep it moving as much as possible to keep Barnes on the leading edge of the process and ability to obtain resources. He urged meeting participants to participate in constant political advocacy with the federal government to work together to solve this problem.

### Action Items

- 1 ANG will verify what dates in September and October are possible for a RAB tour.
- 2 Amy Brand will update RAB application, publish solicitation for additional RAB members in the newspaper and via email to RAB members, in addition to posting it on the website by the end of August.
- 3 Dr. Boutt will prepare and distribute his report at least one week prior to the October 2023 RAB meeting.
- 4 Chris Brown will research the process and timeline to submit the Site 2 documents regarding land restrictions to the Westfield City Council and airport for review
- 5 ANG included calendar/schedule in presentations.
- 6 Chris Brown will look into a possible GAC shortage.
- 7 A visual schedule will be added to future RAB presentations.
- 8 ANG will inform the RAB about submitting documents to the City Council via email rather than waiting for RAB meetings.



# **Barnes Air National Guard (ANG) Base Restoration Advisory Board Meeting #4 July 27, 2023**



# Agenda



- 6:00 PM Agenda Review and Hybrid Meeting Logistics
- 6:05 PM Welcome and Introductions
- 6:10 PM RAB Business
- 6:35 PM Environmental Restoration Program Status Update
- 7:15 PM Public Questions and Comments
- 7:25 PM Closing Remarks
- 7:30 PM Adjourn



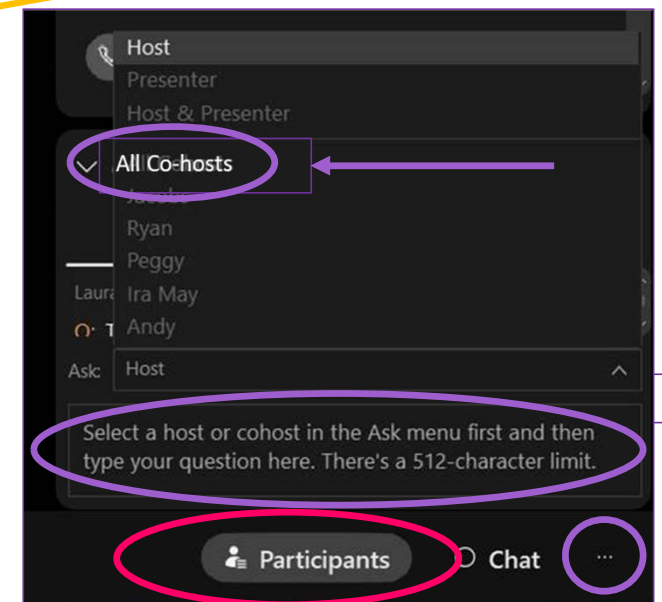
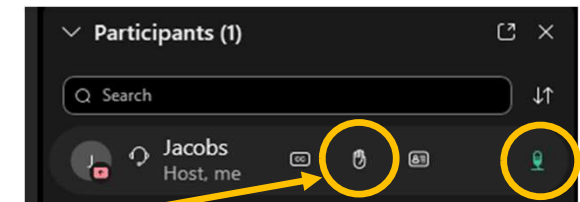
# Hybrid Meeting Logistics

Amy Brand  
Jacobs  
RAB Facilitator



## Webex Basics – Computer

- Video – OFF except for presenters
- Open participants list
- To ask a question:
  - RAB Members - Raise hand to be called on to speak
    - Scroll over your name in the participant list and click on hand symbol
    - Unmute yourself when called on
  - Public participants - Type a question to “all co-hosts” in the Q&A panel
    - Click on 3 dots in lower right corner, choose Q&A
    - Select “all co-hosts” and type question
    - Questions will be answered at the end of the meeting







## Webex Basics – Telephone Participants



- Follow along on slide presentation (emailed or download from 104<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing website at <https://www.104fw.ang.af.mil/About/Restoration-Advisory-Board/>)
- Use your phone mute button when not speaking.
- Dial \*3 to raise hand to be called on to speak after the presentation
  - Host will unmute you after seeing the raised hand
  - You will then receive a prompt to dial \*6 on the phone to unmute yourself
  - Unmute and identify yourself when asking a question or making a comment.



# Meeting Guidelines



- RAB Members
  - Ask questions at the end of each topic
  - Raise hand to be called on to speak
  - Introduce yourself so that everyone (in room and online) knows who is speaking
  - Please observe a 2-minute limit to enable other RAB members to participate.
- Public Participants
  - Submit questions in writing addressed to “all co-hosts”
  - Questions will be read and addressed at the end of the meeting
  - Public questions by phone may be asked verbally at the end of the meeting by pressing \*3 to raise your hand



# Welcome and Introductions

Lt. Col. Peter Carr  
Kathleen Hillman



# Welcome and Introductions



## Air National Guard Team

Col. David Halasi-kun (Base Co-Chair)

Lt. Col. Peter Carr

Jennifer Baker, 104<sup>th</sup> FW Environmental Coordinator

Christopher Brown, National Guard Bureau

Contractors: BB&E, Jacobs (Amy Brand, RAB facilitator)

## Community RAB Members

Kathleen Hillman, Community Co-Chair

Dr. David Boutt, TAPP Advisor

Chris Clark

Nabil Hannoush

Kristen Mello

Rachael Morin

Representative Kelly Pease

Senator John Velis

## Regulatory Contact

Caprice Shaw, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP)

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# RAB Business

Amy Brand  
Jacobs  
RAB Facilitator



# Meeting Summaries



- Draft meeting summary from RAB Meeting #3 (April 2023)
  - Emailed to the RAB – any comments?
  - Draft posted on the 104<sup>th</sup> FW website:  
<https://www.104fw.ang.af.mil/About/Restoration-Advisory-Board/>



## Site Tour



- Opportunity for RAB members to see the sites discussed during RAB meetings
- Unable to schedule July 27 due to available certified drivers
- Proposed dates:
  - August 1, 2, or 3?
  - September?
- Attendees: RAB members and TAPP advisor



## New RAB Members



- RAB members serve for a two-year term, but may continue if desired
  - All members began in August 2021
  - Confirmed that Eric Oulette has resigned from the RAB
- Process to add/replace members:
  - Current RAB members are responsible for filling vacant or additional community RAB positions, up to a limit of 12 community members
  - Members should represent a cross-section of the Westfield community; members by decide by majority vote to add a stakeholder interest not currently represented on the RAB
  - Community members submit a RAB application to co-chairs for approval at least two weeks before the RAB meeting at which membership will be considered
  - Applicant should be present at the voting meeting
  - ANG will advertise RAB membership opportunities and make applications available online

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# Upcoming Meetings



- Dates
  - Agreed on fourth Thursday of the month, every 3 months: January, April, July, October
  - Adjustments to be made when needed
  - Upcoming meetings:     October 26, 2023  
                                  January 25, 2024  
                                  April 25, 2024
- Hybrid Meetings



# Technical Assistance for Public Participation Grant Status Update



- TAPP awarded June 16 – first for the Air National Guard
- Awarded to University of Massachusetts Amherst to obtain technical support from Dr. David Boutt
- Scope:
  - To conduct an independent review of completed reports associated with Westfield MA PFAS contamination
  - To provide the RAB with progress reports at regularly scheduled RAB meetings
  - To provide RAB members and the community a public presentation summarizing the conclusions, including a questions and answer period
  - To provide a summary report (minimum of one week before the presentation)



## Additional Grant Opportunities

- Technical Assistance Grant (from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency)
  - To provide technical assistance at Superfund sites listed on the National Priorities List (NPL)
  - Barnes is not a federal Superfund site listed on the NPL; therefore, not eligible
- Strategic Environmental Research and Development Program (SERDP) and Environmental Security Technology Certification Program (ESTCP)
  - <https://serdp-estcp.org/about>
  - Department of Defense's environmental, resilience, and installation energy and water research programs, harnessing the latest science and technology to improve DoD's environmental performance, reduce costs, and enhance and sustain mission capabilities.
- Next TAPP application



# RAB Member Discussion



- Please raise your hands and unmute yourself when recognized.
- Introduce yourself at the beginning of your question or comment.
- Please limit questions to 2 minutes to give other RAB members an opportunity to participate.



# Environmental Restoration Program Status Update

Christopher Brown  
National Guard Bureau



# Environmental Restoration Program

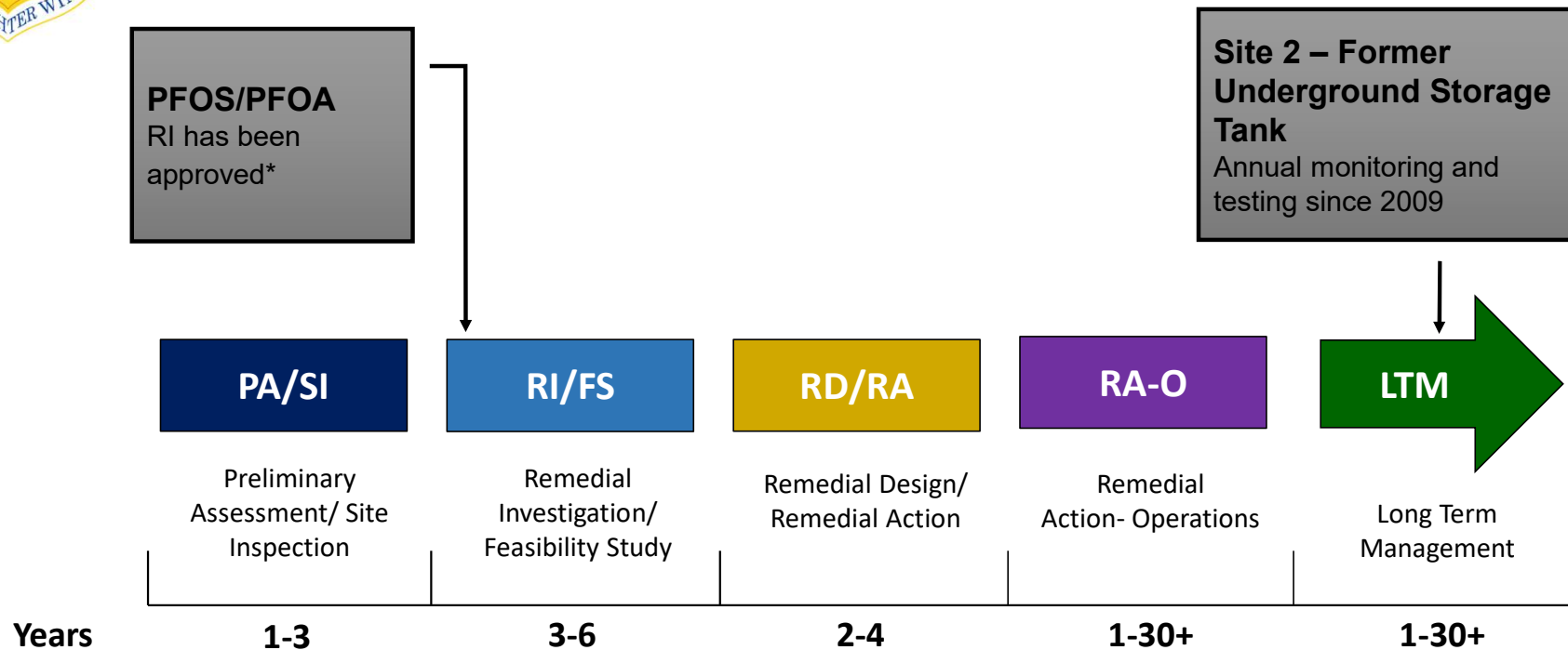


- Environmental investigations/cleanup (Non-PFAS sites) has been ongoing at Barnes since 1987
  - Six sites were cleaned up and closed by 2015
  - ERP Site 2 undergoing long-term monitoring
    - Activity and Use Limitation (AUL), coordinating with City of Westfield
- Investigation of PFAS began in 2016
- Regulatory agencies and stakeholders
  - Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP)
  - National Guard Bureau





# CERCLA Process



\* Many factors are considered when moving an environmental project to the next phase of work, including available funding.

\*\* DoD can take short-term action anytime during the process, if there are exceedances of the HA of 70ppt.

CERCLA = Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act

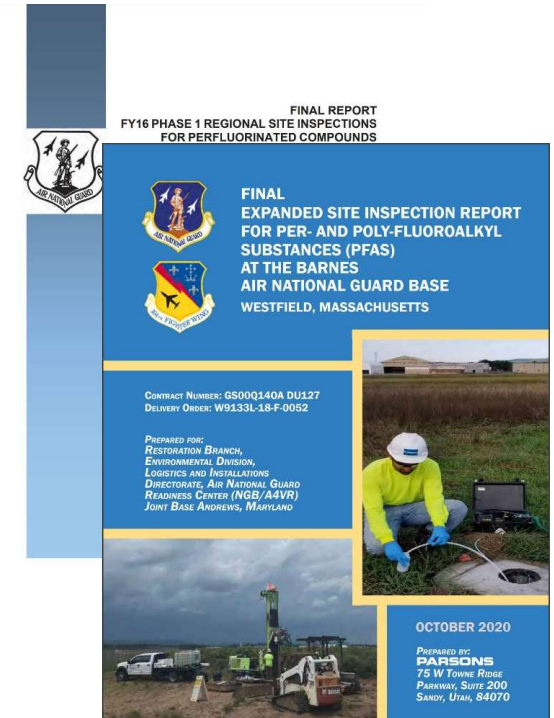


# Next Steps

- Next step is the Remedial Investigation (RI)
  - RI will determine nature and extent of PFAS migration
- Status of Remedial Investigation
  - Projecting to award RI end of FY 2023
    - Proposals due end July
    - Negotiations first part of August
    - Prepare Post Negotiation Memo end of August
    - Issue award September
- Post Award
  - Uniform Federal Policy-Quality Assurance Project Plan (UFP-QAPP), Date TBD (Summer/Fall 2024)



FINAL  
PERFLUORINATED COMPOUNDS PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT  
SITE VISIT REPORT  
BARNES AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE  
WESTFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS







# RAB Member Discussion



- Please raise your hands and unmute yourself when recognized.
- Introduce yourself at the beginning of your question or comment.
- Please limit questions to 2 minutes to give other RAB members an opportunity to participate.



# Public Questions and Comments



Questions submitted in writing during the meeting will be addressed.



# Contact Information



104 <sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, Barnes Air National Guard Base		
Base Co-Chair Commander <b>Col. David Halasi-kun</b>	Environmental Manager <b>Ms. Jennifer Baker</b>	Public Affairs Manager <b>SSgt Randall Burlingame</b> (413) 568-9151 x 698-1202 <a href="mailto:Randall.burlingame@us.af.mil">Randall.burlingame@us.af.mil</a>
Community Co-Chair		
<b>Kathleen Hillman</b> <a href="mailto:khillman179@gmail.com">khillman179@gmail.com</a>		
National Guard Bureau		Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
Program Manager <b>Mr. Christopher Brown</b> (240) 612-7275 <a href="mailto:christopher.brown.261@us.af.mil">christopher.brown.261@us.af.mil</a>		<b>Caprice Shaw</b> (413) 755-2222 <a href="mailto:Caprice.shaw@state.ma.us">Caprice.shaw@state.ma.us</a>



# Websites for More Information



## Environmental Restoration Program at 104th Fighter Wing

- General and Links to PFOS/PFOA Information: <https://www.104fw.ang.af.mil/About/Environmental/>
- Restoration Advisory Board: <https://www.104fw.ang.af.mil/About/Restoration-Advisory-Board/>

## Relative Risk Site Evaluation (RRSE)

- Barnes RRSE: [https://www.104fw.ang.af.mil/Portals/5/Barnes\\_RRSE%20Fact%20Sheet%20and%20Scoring%20Summaries\\_211215.pdf](https://www.104fw.ang.af.mil/Portals/5/Barnes_RRSE%20Fact%20Sheet%20and%20Scoring%20Summaries_211215.pdf)
- RRSE Primer: [https://www.denix.osd.mil/references/dod/policy-guidance/relative-risk-site-evaluation-primer/RRSE\\_Primer\\_Summer1997.pdf](https://www.denix.osd.mil/references/dod/policy-guidance/relative-risk-site-evaluation-primer/RRSE_Primer_Summer1997.pdf)

## 104th Fighter Wing Environmental Administrative Record

- <https://ar.afcec-cloud.af.mil/Search.aspx> (Select ANG radio button, select Barnes, and click on search)

## MassDEP PFAS Information

- <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/per-and-polyfluoroalkyl-substances-pfas>

## Westfield Water Department PFAS Information

- <https://www.cityofwestfield.org/672/PFCs-Information-Updates>

## RAB Rule Handbook and Information on Technical Assistance for Public Participation

- <https://www.denix.osd.mil/rab/home/>

## Air Force Response to PFOS and PFOA

- <https://www.afcec.af.mil/WhatWeDo/Environment/Perfluorinated-Compounds/>



# Closing Remarks

Kathleen Hillman  
Col. David Halasi-kun



Adjourn