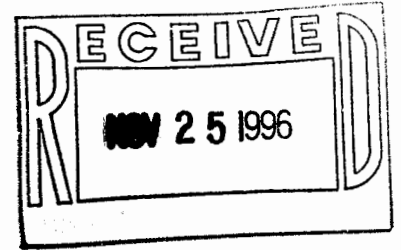


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**RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB)
FORT BLISS, TEXAS**



Background

The Department of Defense's Installation Restoration Program (IRP) involves the environmental cleanup of non-active sites. The command at Fort Bliss is very environmentally conscious and has been aggressive in obtaining funding under this program. As a result we have completed cleanup of our worst sites and the majority of those remaining involve petroleum products and a small number of sites require cleanup of pesticide and dry cleaning solvents. Evaluations are underway at nine sites in New Mexico and three sites in Texas to determine if cleanup will be required at those locations. In addition, we have again been fortunate to receive Congressional funding to continue our cleanup of unexploded ordnance on the Castner Range. This effort will position us to be able to excess parcels of that property.

The Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) is an advisory body designed to act as a focal point for the exchange of information between Fort Bliss and the local community regarding restoration activities. The RAB is intended to bring together the community members enabling the early and continued two-way flow of information, concerns, values, and needs between the involved community members and the installation.

RAB members will be asked to meet regularly and review and comment on technical documents and plans relating to the ongoing environmental studies and restoration activities at Fort Bliss. Members will be expected to serve as a liaison with the community and be able to meet with community members and groups. All RAB meetings will be open to the public. Technical support staff will be available to provide informational support and explanation to RAB members.

How to Become a RAB Member

Community members interested in finding out more about the RAB are invited and encouraged to attend community meetings that Fort Bliss will conduct on December 4th and 5th. Meetings will be on two nights to be convenient to both Texas and New Mexico citizens. The December 4th RAB information meeting will be held at Fort Bliss, and the December 5th meeting will be held in Las Cruces, NM. At the information meeting you will learn about the purpose of the RAB, membership opportunities and responsibilities, and hear an update on the status of installation restoration activities and future plans. Community Interest Forms which contain RAB membership applications will be available at the information meetings. The community meetings will be held at the following addresses:

Wednesday, December 4th
Fort Bliss, Texas
Sheridan Road
Building 2, Room 188
7:00 - 8:30 PM

Thursday, December 5th
Hilton Hotel
705 S. Telshor Blvd.
Las Cruces, NM
7:00 - 8:30 PM

If you have questions about the RAB or are interested in applying for RAB membership, forms may also be obtained by contacting:

Jim Stefanov
Manager, Installation Restoration Program
Building 515-B
Fort Bliss, Texas 79916
915-568-4979
915-568-1333 (fax)

All RAB Community Interest Forms must be received by December 31, 1996. To comply with established procedures, forms will be reviewed and RAB membership applications approved by a selection panel. The selection panel will consist of representatives from state and local regulatory agencies and Fort Bliss.

Community Expectations

Community members are expected to serve as volunteers on the RAB to provide advice to decision makers about restoration plans for Fort Bliss.

Information Meeting(s) Agenda

7:00 - 7:10 p.m.	Welcome and Introductions
7:10 - 7:30 p.m.	Installation Restoration Program (IRP) Overview
7:30 - 7:40 p.m.	Risk-Based Cleanup Methodology
7:40 - 7:50 p.m.	How Army Cleanup Projects are Funded
7:50 - 8:00 p.m.	Purpose and Responsibilities of a RAB
8:00 - 8:30 p.m.	Open Discussion / Action Items

4. Would you be interested in being on a mailing list to receive fact sheets, news releases, etc. from the installation about its environmental program.

_____ Yes, I would like to be on the mailing list.

PART II: PARTICIPATION IN RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD ACTIVITIES

Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) members are expected to serve a 2 year term and attend all RAB meetings. Members who miss three or more consecutive meetings may be asked to resign. Duties and responsibilities will include reviewing and commenting on technical documents and activities associated with the environmental restoration program at Fort Bliss. Members will be expected to be available to the public to facilitate the exchange of information and/or concerns between the community and the RAB. Participation in the RAB is strictly voluntary and members will not be financially compensated. Members will be chosen by a selection panel and will be representative of the diverse interests of the community.

Those who do not serve directly on the RAB may still participate in RAB activities. Interested members of the community will be included on the mailing list and invited to attend all RAB meetings, which are open to the public. Technical documents reviewed by the RAB will be made available to the public through information repositories. The public will be able to comment on the technical documents either in writing to the installation or at the RAB meetings during a time set aside for public comments and input.

NOTE: Priority for RAB membership will be given to local residents who could be directly affected by cleanup activities at Fort Bliss.

1. Would you like to be considered for RAB membership? If so, please state why.
2. What has been your experience working as a member of a diverse group with common goals?
3. The community co-chairperson will be selected by the public members of the RAB. Please indicate if you are interested in being the community co-chairperson position by checking on the line below.

_____ Yes, I would like to be considered.

4. If you responded yes to question 3, please state why you would be interested in being the community co-chairperson.

5. By submitting this signed application, you:

- are aware that being a RAB member would involve a set time commitment;
- understand that being a RAB member entails a willingness to work cooperatively with other RAB members to ensure the efficient and effective use of RAB time;
- understand that serving on the RAB will be voluntary and RAB members will not receive compensation for this service; and,
- understand the following Privacy Act information regarding providing your name, address and telephone number for this survey:

PRIVACY ACT NOTICE

Authority : 10 U.S. Code (USC) §2705 (c) and 42 USC §9620 (f) , State and local participation in cleanup of federal facilities.

Principal Purpose: To identify members of the local community who are interested in participation in the RAB.

Routine Uses: The requested information will be used to develop a list of interested persons from which the community members of the RAB will be selected. The information will also be used by the Army to contact the individuals who are selected.

Disclosure of the requested information is voluntary. Failure to provide all the requested information may prevent selection to the RAB.

Applicant Signature

Date