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F.W. 97-5

Fort Wingate Depot Activity  
Restoration Advisory Board Meeting  
11 June 1997  
Chamber of Commerce  
103 W. Highway 66  
Gallup, NM

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

On the 11th day of June, 1997, at approximately 6:30 p.m., this matter came on for hearing on Fort Wingate Depot Activity, Restoration Advisory Board Meeting.

A P P E A R A N C E S

For the Restoration Advisory Board:

Mr. Larry Fisher, Chair  
Mr. Robert S. "Stu" Dinwiddie, NMED/NRMB  
Mr. Chuck Hendrickson, USEPA

Attendees:

Mr. Dwayne Ford, Corps of Engineering  
Ms. Judith Anderson, HQIOC  
Mr. Bill Bradley, IOC  
Mr. Joe Mares, CMSE  
Mr. Steven Agnacyz, ERM  
Mr. Wilbur J. Nez, Navajo Nation  
Mr. Chris Whitman, NMED  
Ms. Carol Youkey, Corps of Engineers  
Ms. Susan Hoiness, NMED  
Mr. Phillip Solzno, NMED  
Mr. Ron Kneebone, USACE  
Mr. David Kelly, Navajo EPA  
Ms. Ann Sasahara, Navajo EPA  
Mr. Stan McAllister, Corps of Engineers  
Mr. Edgar Agy, HQ Industrial Ops, Command, US Army  
Ms. Cheryl Buckel, USACE  
Mr. Ed Agy  
Ms. Katrina Ajemian, Corps of Engineers



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
FORT WORTH DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
P. O. BOX 17300  
FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76102-0300

July 17, 1997

**Fort Wingate Depot Activity, Restoration Advisory Board Meeting**

1. Attached for your information is the agenda and transcript from the June 11 meeting.
2. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 10, 1997, at 6:30 p.m., at the Best Western Inn & Suites, 3009 W. Highway 66, in Gallup, New Mexico. For reservations, call 1-800-722-6399 or (505) 722-2221 as soon as possible because the hotels in Gallup are already filling up due to other events. Please mention that you are part of the Fort Wingate RAB group. I will be sending you a reminder with a tentative agenda a few weeks prior to the meeting.
3. If you have any other questions, feel free to call me at (817) 978-7255.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Judy Marsicano", is positioned above the typed name.

Judy Marsicano  
Public Affairs Specialist

Fort Wingate Depot Activity  
Restoration Advisory Board Meeting  
June 11, 1997

## Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Current Land Uses and Property Actions
3. Restoration Actions Since Last RAB Meeting
  - a. Building 503, Invitation for Bids
  - b. Soil Investigations at Buildings 536 and 537
  - c. Pilot Wash of Igloos
  - d. UXO Clearance
4. Restoration Actions Planned for Summer 1997
5. Closing Comments

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## INDEX TO TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

	Page
TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS	3
TRANSCRIPT CORRECTION PAGE	81
REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE (Hilland)	82



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TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

(NOTE: Open conference)

MR. FISHER: I'd like to welcome everybody here tonight. Sorry we're a little bit late. We're expecting a few more people. Some of the other members here haven't showed up. They'll probably be a little bit late.

But anyway we would like to welcome you here this evening. And I hope everybody signed in over at the table there and picked up an agenda for tonight's Restoration Advisory Board meeting. Because we're running a little bit behind schedule, I thought we'd just go ahead and get going.

If everybody doesn't mind so that everybody in the room knows who everybody is what we would like to do is just introduce ourselves so you know who all the players are here, et cetera, et cetera.

So my name is Larry Fisher. I am the co-chair of the Restoration Advisory Board. I'm also the BRAC environmental coordinator for Fort Wingate on the closing of Fort Wingate. And I live up in <sup>COELE</sup>Twila, Utah. And the reason is it's a closed base here. We have four caretakers out there that, you know, cut the grass and try to keep everything in as good a condition as they possibly can. But our commander at the Army depot <sup>is</sup> was responsible for



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1 Fort Wingate. That's his responsibility still until it's  
2 given away or whatever. So that's why I'm involved in it.

3 So without further ado so to speak, I would like  
4 to go ahead and just have everybody introduce themselves.  
5 Start here and just kind of zigzag back and forth and go to  
6 the other side if you don't mind.

7 MR. DINWIDDIE: I'm Stu Dinwiddie. I'm the  
8 director of the program manager for the State of New  
9 Mexico.

10 MR. HENDRICKSON: Chuck Henderson with EPA,  
11 Region 6, in Dallas. And I am on the BRAC cleanup team for  
12 Fort Wingate.

13 MS. AJEMIAN: My name is Katrina Ajemian  
14 with the Fort Wingate Corps of Engineers.

15 MR. McALLISTER: Stan McAllister, on-site  
16 construction manager for Fort Wingate, Fort Worth.

17 MR. MARES: I'm with the Environmental  
18 Division.

19 MS. YOUKEY: Carol Youkey for the Corps of  
20 Engineers. And I work on the Huntsville project.

21 MR. NEZ: My name is Wilbur Nez. I'm with  
22 the Navajo Nation. And I also on the technical team for  
23 the reuse of the Fort Wingate Environmental.

24 MR. SOLZNO: Phillip Solzno with the New  
25 Mexico Hazardous Materials. And Stu Dinwiddie is my



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1 partner.

2 MS. HOINES: Susan Hoines. I'm with the New  
3 Mexico Environmental Project, and I work with Dwayne and  
4 Stu.

5 MR. WHITMAN: Chris Whitman, New Mexico  
6 Environment Department, groundwater quality.

7 MR. KELLY: David Kelly with Navajo EPA.

8 MR. KNEEBONE: Ron Kneebone. I'm with the  
9 Corps of Engineers, Albuquerque District. We've been doing  
10 the cultural compliances.

11 MR. BRADLEY: Bill Bradley with the legal  
12 office for industrial operations.

13 MR. AGY: Ed Agy for environmental function  
14 Industrial Operations Command.

15 MR. HENDRICKSON: Chuck Hendrickson with the  
16 environment clean up.

17 MS. ANDERSON: Judy Anderson with the  
18 Industrial Operations Command. 12 Army depot is one of our  
19 facilities. Then consequently so is Fort Wingate.

20 MS. BUCKEL: Cheryl Buckel, project manager  
21 with Fort Wingate. I work with Katrina.

22 MR. EGNACZYK: Steve Egnaczyk with ERA  
23 public relations manager. I work at Fort Wingate.

24 MS. SASAHARA: Ann Sasahara with Navajo EPA.

25 MR. FISHER: Thank you. We appreciate



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1 that. You guys are kind of out numbered. Seems like  
2 that's always the case. We have so many government people  
3 here. We've had meetings yesterday and today. That's why  
4 there is a lot of people here who decided to stay for the  
5 Restoration Advisory Board.

6 What I would like to do now is to turn the time  
7 over -- a little bit of time over to Mr. Ed Agy, and he  
8 will talk about the number two item, the current land use  
9 and property items at Fort Wingate. Just give us a little  
10 update.

11 MR. AGY: Thank you. Normally, I wouldn't  
12 be doing this, but unfortunately the fellow who does this  
13 is not here. But let me just briefly give you a few words.  
14 Also I'm sure most of you have heard this same dialogue  
15 before.

16 Fort Wingate is a closed installation under the  
17 Base Realignment and Closure Act of 1988. And as such, we,  
18 the Army, are in the process of transferring it to somebody  
19 else. That somebody else is the Department of Interior is  
20 the objective right now. The reason that's the objective  
21 is because the total installation public domain withheld  
22 land, and as such they have first claim first right of  
23 refusal, which they have exercised at this stage of the  
24 game.

25 Going further as far as who is using the lands or





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1 what the intended purpose of the lands are, in the interim  
2 as you can see on this map right here, the blue is  
3 currently being used by <sup>BALLISTIC MISSILE</sup> visual defense office and they are  
4 looking at it for a launch site for missiles. But we also  
5 have a <sup>TPL</sup> TPO, which is a contractor contracting with the  
6 headquarters industrial operations command for a  
7 conventional demill. They have some areas plus some igloos  
8 down in this particular area. And for example they're  
9 looking for some additional storage space and a few other  
10 buildings that they might be able to do additional contract  
11 work in. That has not to the best of my knowledge been  
12 approved yet. But that's on the table right now for  
13 consideration.

14 We also had some interest expressed by others for  
15 using this land until such time as it is transferred to the  
16 Department of Interior. Most of those people -- as I  
17 understand right now, most of those interests went by the  
18 wayside. The only one that's still active that's under  
19 consideration right now as I understand it is the Navajo  
20 Nation still has an interest in five igloos. And that's  
21 still an issue these being addressed by the Army right now  
22 as far as if in fact we want to grant them interim lease,  
23 depending on when we might get to the position of an actual  
24 transfer.

25 Other than that, there are no other issues that I



1 know as far as land use that are of large importance.

2 Unless somebody has some questions, that's all I  
3 have to say right now.

4 MS. ANDERSON: National Guard?

5 MR. EGY: Oh, excuse me. That's right. Ms.  
6 Anderson refreshed my memory. We do have the National  
7 Guard here. Right as we speak they're utilizing some of  
8 the area for an operation that's ongoing for infrastructure  
9 capabilities within some of the outlying districts here  
10 both the Navajo and possibly the Zuni tribe as I understand  
11 it. And they will be as I understand it finishing up their  
12 operations at the end of the month and then they will be  
13 moving out.

14 MR. FISHER: That's the end of July.

15 MR. EGY: End of July, is it? Okay. Excuse  
16 me. End of July. Any questions?

17 MR. KELLY: Yes, I do. My name is David  
18 Kelly with Navajo EPA. You said this is being closed under  
19 BRAC?

20 MR. AGY: Yes.

21 MR. KELLY: I thought this was a different  
22 or a similar clause to BRAC, but not really under BRAC.  
23 Can I get clarification on that?

24 MR. AGY: As I understand it right now, BRAC  
25 88, which is the first BRAC that was in existence, this was



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1 one of the many installations that was identified, and the  
2 law indicated that the Army would close this installation.  
3 And that has in fact happened. This installation as far as  
4 the Army is concerned is closed. And I can't even remember  
5 the date that it was actually closed.

6 MR. FISHER: 93.

7 MR. AGY: 93. So it technically meets the  
8 BRAC law. In addition to that, there are some  
9 environmental mediation areas that the Army feels is  
10 mandated to see about cleaning up so that in fact if we  
11 transfer it to somebody else then in fact we don't transfer  
12 a piece of potentially contaminated property. And in this  
13 case that somebody else is the Department of Interior  
14 because of the public domain withdrawn land, which they  
15 have asked for the total installation. I don't know if  
16 that answers your question or not.

17 MR. KELLY: The reason I bring that up is  
18 the Bureau of Indian Affairs under the Department of  
19 Interior was stating to us that it wasn't following exactly  
20 a BRAC process. It didn't really fall into a BRAC process.

21 MR. FISHER: No. It's always followed the  
22 BRAC process.

23 MS. ANDERSON: It can't precisely because  
24 it's 100 percent domain with <sup>down</sup>lands. So it can't fall in  
25 the precepts of BRAC installation, which doesn't involve



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1 any withdrawn lands. And maybe that was the point they  
2 were making.

3 MR. KELLY: I think so.

4 MS. ANDERSON: So it changes the flavor of  
5 the closure mission when in fact you're dealing with lands  
6 that was taken by imminent domain?

7 MR. EGY: Yes, sir.

8 MR. NEZ: What is the estimated costs for the  
9 cleanup of the Fort Wingate?

10 MR. EGY: Mr. Fisher?

11 MR. FISHER: Total estimated cost?

12 MR. NEZ: Yes.

13 MR. FISHER: When we get it finally cleaned  
14 up -- I don't really have that figure in front of me. We  
15 spend about 5 million a year on it so far since, what, 1990  
16 -- I think it was 89 we started. And that's what it's  
17 running until right now for a year. The year 2,000 we have  
18 budgeted or at least hope to get \$24 million to finish  
19 everything up. And we don't know if we're going to get  
20 that much a year, and likely not, but if you can just kind  
21 of -- 5 million times so many years. That would be since  
22 about 89 I think is when we first got started out here  
23 doing the studies.

24 MR. NEZ: The reason why I ask is because  
25 just last week I sponsored a bill into the



1 Intergovernmental Relations Committee of the Navajo Nation  
2 Council requesting the Navajo Nation Council to request the  
3 Department of Defense and the Secretary of Defense to  
4 appropriate sufficient funds to clean up Fort Wingate.

5 MR. FISHER: Okay.

6 MR. NEZ: But I'm sure that they will come  
7 back and say, "What is the estimated dollar figure?" So  
8 that we will probably include perhaps 20 million. Am I  
9 assuming --

10 MR. FISHER: We probably spent about 40 to  
11 45 million on it so far. Do you have any total?

12 MS. AJEMIAN: About 35 million is roughly  
13 your cost to complete right now.

14 MR. FISHER: So 35 more million to complete  
15 the cleanup.

16 MR. EGY: Based upon what we know right now  
17 of what needs to be cleaned up without the unknowns, that's  
18 what that figure would represent. And that's a best guess  
19 right now because certain costs have a tendency to  
20 escalate. So we're not saying that's cast in concrete.  
21 All we might need. It depends on the circumstances of  
22 contracts and unexpected instances.

23 MR. FISHER: You know, with the money  
24 situation within the government, you know, it makes it  
25 pretty difficult to get fully funded because there are a



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1 lot of other installations that are in worse shape than  
2 Fort Wingate. So a lot of money goes there. But we still  
3 have to plan ahead saying, you know, "This is what it's  
4 going to cost us to complete by such and such a year." And  
5 we planned all that and we asked for that money, but we  
6 don't always get it and we probably won't get everything we  
7 need to close it on time.

8 MR. EGY: Just kind of a side note,  
9 digressing slightly, but Industrial Operations Command,  
10 which I'm a part of, which has 12 Army depots and Fort  
11 Wingate as part of its broad array of installations -- we  
12 have about 15 installations, we have ten sites that are  
13 BRAC related for closure or realignment. So Fort Wingate  
14 happens to be one-tenth of the process. So we have to take  
15 with the few dollars that are allocated down that we go  
16 forward and ask for, they have to compete with the other  
17 ten. So it's not just that we only have one installation  
18 that is of concern. We have ten of them.

19 MR. FISHER: But anything you could do to  
20 help would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

21 MR. EGY: Any other questions?

22 Thank you.

23 MR. FISHER: Now I would like to turn the  
24 time over to Mr. Dwayne Ford with the Fort Wingate Corps of  
25 Engineers. And he will discuss the items on number three.



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1 MR. FORD: Well, first of all, I would like  
2 to welcome everybody to the Restoration Advisory Board for  
3 Fort Wingate. And I am going to be presenting a fair  
4 amount of material tonight. If you look at the agenda  
5 there are three different projections that I'm going to be  
6 talking about buildings 503, 506, 536, and 537, and pilot  
7 wash.

8 So, in view of that, just a moment and I will tell  
9 you a little bit about myself. My name is Dwayne Ford. I  
10 have a master's degree in environmental engineering. I've  
11 worked for the Corps of Engineers for about  
12 three-and-a-half years now. Much of that time has been  
13 spent on Fort Wingate projects.

14 Now, before I really get into the material there  
15 are a few things that I wanted to mention. First of all,  
16 we have some handouts that I hope that everybody picked up  
17 at the back table back here. We have some small maps that  
18 are exactly this. And they will help you some with  
19 reference while I go through the presentation of looking  
20 and locating different items.

21 Also I have some handouts here. I've prepared  
22 some fact sheets for the three different projects that I'll  
23 be talking about. So please feel free to take these.  
24 They're for your information, they're for your use. Take  
25 them with you. If you have questions, please feel free to



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1 ask me during the presentation or afterwards.

2 I also have a couple of other things that I wanted  
3 to ask you all to help with. I'm an engineer, and it's  
4 going to be really easy for me to fall into the  
5 engineerlese. So if I start using terms that you're not  
6 familiar with, please let me know.

7 I heard one today that was the C Squeegee. I love  
8 that one. The C Squeegee. I had no idea what that was.  
9 So if I start using terms that you're not familiar with --  
10 and the purpose of the RAB is really to communicate this  
11 information to the public. If I start using terms that I'm  
12 losing that communication, please feel free to stop me,  
13 say, "What do you mean by that? What is that?"

14 The other thing is I would like to solicit your  
15 information on our RAB night, if we're doing things right  
16 if we're doing things wrong, if the material is too  
17 technical, if it's not technical enough. Please let us  
18 know, give us that feedback; otherwise, next time we're  
19 here, we'll do pretty much the same thing. So if you have  
20 any input that you would like to give us, please speak to  
21 Ms. Judy Marjon back there, and we'll try to approve the  
22 process.

23 Now, I have really some pretty cool slides that  
24 I'm eager to show, but I'm going to save those for the last  
25 part, the pilot wash. I'm going to save those for the last





1 part of the presentation. I didn't have any slides for the  
2 buildings 536 and 537. So what I did is I prepared a  
3 family photo album, and I have photos in here of buildings  
4 536 and 537 site.

5 I will pass this around. Feel free to look at  
6 this. This is my own personal photo album. So don't take  
7 this home with you, but take a look at this. If you have  
8 questions then again I will make myself available  
9 afterwards to answer questions. If you want to know what  
10 is that building, what is that piece of equipment, what's  
11 that person doing, please feel free to ask. I'll just  
12 start it around, Katrina, if you would.

13 I don't really have any audio visual material for  
14 the building 503 or buildings 536 or 537 projects other  
15 than my photo album. So you're going to have to listen to  
16 me drone for a few minutes about that.

17 Fort Wingate was an Army depot during its active  
18 life. And its primary mission was handling munitions. It  
19 handled and managed quite a few of those.

20 Part of that mission was the disposal of obsolete  
21 or unserviceable munitions. The Department of Defense is  
22 often not really eager to give munitions to its troops that  
23 are going to fail. So periodically they would test -- they  
24 would test a number of items out of a particular lot number  
25 of munitions. And they would perform the functional



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1 testing on those. If a certain number of those failed out  
2 of that lot number then the Department of Defense would  
3 issue a notice and say, "All of that lot number is bad.  
4 Get rid of those."

5 If the installation had that particular munitions,  
6 that particular lot number on the base, then that would be  
7 scheduled for disposal.

8 Part of the disposal process included the building  
9 503, which was the explosives wash out plant. The  
10 munitions would be carried down to building 503, they would  
11 be unpacked, they would be opened up, the cases would be  
12 opened up and the explosives inside would be extracted,  
13 using a hot water process, which would essentially just met  
14 the explosives out. I guess kind of like a fatal or a  
15 lethal gel or something, you know. And they may separate  
16 the explosives from the water drive explosives, sell it  
17 back to the munitions' manufacturers.

18 The building was used really from 1949 to 1967.  
19 It processed a wide variety of conventional munitions. It  
20 stopped being used in 1967. As part of the BRAC process  
21 investigations we looked at that building, we looked at the  
22 wash out plant, and did some wash sampling. There were  
23 some explosive dust identified in the building. We also  
24 know that the process equipment is still intact. It very  
25 likely has explosives, residue, and slag material inside



1 the processed equipment.

2 Now, there are regulations that require the Army  
3 to eliminate any explosive safety hazards that are involved  
4 with the transfer of property. So the Army is required to  
5 get rid of the explosive safety hazard inherent with  
6 building 503. The building itself has very minimal reuse  
7 potential. It's in poor condition. It hasn't been  
8 maintained in a number of years.

9 The function of the building itself was very  
10 military specific. There are not many commercial people  
11 that would want a set of TNT wash out process equipment.  
12 And then the explosive hazard itself with the building and  
13 with the process equipment all kind of drove us to the  
14 conclusion that the only real way to take care of the  
15 problem to eliminate the explosive safety hazard was to  
16 demolish the building and treat the process equipment.

17 Now, the Corps of Engineers developed a set of  
18 plans and specifications and we sent a contract out for  
19 bid. We had some bids come in on that. Katrina Ajemian  
20 will talk about the bids that came in on it a little bit  
21 later in the presentation tonight. But essentially the  
22 process that we're going to do with building 503 is we're  
23 going to demolish the building. The process equipment  
24 itself will be disassembled and then it's going to be flash  
25 flamed.



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1           The flash flaming is a highly technical operation  
2 which essentially involves burning of the explosives. The  
3 process equipment will be disassembled. We're going to  
4 take it up to the OBOD unit. Open burn open detonation  
5 unit. Sorry about that. And there we're going to soak it  
6 with some fuel and ignite it. The combustion process  
7 itself will consume all the explosives and render that  
8 safe.

9           This open burn process is a traditional DOD method  
10 that's been used for years and years to treat materials  
11 contaminated with explosives. The OBOD itself really did  
12 that while the installation was serving its active  
13 mission. That's one of the things it would do. So that  
14 unit is specifically tailored for that particular process.

15           We also have at the building -- we have hanta  
16 virus concerns. We have some PCBs. We have some asbestos.  
17 We have some lead base paint. So all of that will be  
18 addressed also as part of the demolition process.

19           Now, all of the work at the building is going to  
20 be under the direct eyes, under the direction supervision,  
21 of a team of ordnance explosives experts. These gentlemen  
22 that -- well, I shouldn't say gentlemen. That's my  
23 prevention of sexual harassment. Pardon me. These people  
24 came out of the military. They're explosive ordnance  
25 demolition experts. They're trained by the military.



1 We're requiring a number of years of active duty military  
2 work to do this work. They will be doing all of the  
3 supervision for the building 503. They'll implement all  
4 the safety procedures necessary to do this work as  
5 effectively and safely as possible.

6 We'll disinfect the building for the hanta virus.  
7 We'll disassemble the process equipment. We're going to  
8 flush it with hot water first to try to remove as much bulk  
9 explosive as we possibly can. Take the process equipment  
10 up to the OBOD where it will be flash flamed. The building  
11 itself will be destroyed, or it's going to be demolished.  
12 Part of the building doesn't really involve the wash out  
13 process itself. It was more for unloading and restoring of  
14 munitions. That part of the building can be demolished  
15 using pretty much conventional methods.

16 The wash out portion itself is going to be tested  
17 for explosive residues in the cracks and on any occluded  
18 surfaces within there. The slab itself, we're going to  
19 allow the contractor the ability to break open that slab  
20 using conventional explosives if they so elect. That  
21 doesn't mean that they will. That doesn't mean that they  
22 necessarily will. We haven't made that option available to  
23 them.

24 The reason that we want to do that is the daily  
25 processes when the plant was active included a wash down of



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1 the entire building surface and all of the process  
2 equipment that captured any of the TNT dust that was out  
3 there and prevented it from building up to an explosive  
4 safety hazard. The problem that has been encountered at  
5 other Army ammunition plants or at other wash out plants is  
6 that that wash down water over the years carried this  
7 explosive dust into the cracks that would be present in the  
8 concrete or expansion joints and over the years explosives  
9 could build up within those cracks or beneath the slab.

10 We don't really know what's under there. If there  
11 is a gob of explosives underneath there then that alone  
12 represents a fairly significant explosive safety hazard.  
13 The safest way to crack open that slab may be to use  
14 explosives as opposed to jack hammering or a wrecking  
15 ball. So we're allowing them to do that.

16 After the process equipment has been treated, it  
17 will be test inspected for explosives or it will be  
18 certified safe for transfer outside of DOD control. The  
19 building will be demolished, stockpiled, disposed of  
20 appropriately.

21 Now, there is the potential that we might have  
22 explosives in the soil beneath the building. Like I said,  
23 this water that was used in the wash down process could  
24 have carried explosives and placed it in the soil beneath  
25 the slab. So our ordnance explosive team, when the slab is



1 opened up, they will go in there and they'll inspect it for  
2 any explosives that may be there, any bulk explosives or  
3 any building materials that are contaminated with  
4 explosives. Those will have been treated with water and/or  
5 flash flaming.

6 They'll be doing some soil sampling beneath the  
7 building there to identify how much, what the locations  
8 are, of any explosive contamination. And then essentially  
9 we will be finished with the site other than disposing of  
10 everything. If there is contamination in the soil, we want  
11 to handle that in conjunction with the adjacent TNT  
12 leaching beds.

13 The leaching beds received the effluent water from  
14 the wash out plant also. And so they're contaminated. We  
15 know that they have explosives in the soil there. It's  
16 right next door to the wash out plant. Essentially the  
17 same source, the same type of contaminant. So we're going  
18 to handle that in conjunction with the TNT leaching beds.

19 Have I left anything out, Katrina? Anybody? Do  
20 you have questions?

21 MS. ANDERSON: The OBOD unit we're referring  
22 to is actually an area, right?

23 MR. FORD: That's correct. The OBOD unit is  
24 right here. Right here is where we'll be doing the flash  
25 flaming. And this unit again was in use when Fort Wingate



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1 was an active base. And it would also serve as part of the  
2 disposal mission for managing the munitions where munitions  
3 which had to be destroyed, they would be brought up here  
4 into this unit and they would be detonated or some open  
5 burning also occurred to treat materials contaminated with  
6 explosives, burn propellants, detonant materials. So this  
7 is a unit that was operating under the program specifically  
8 for this purpose.

9 It made a lot of sense to us to move our material  
10 from building 503 to process equipment, which is  
11 essentially the same problem. And we've got material  
12 that's contaminated with explosives. It's just a settling  
13 basin instead of a pieces of ordnance. So it made a lot of  
14 sense for us to disassemble that equipment, cart it up  
15 here, store it into this unit.

16 MS. ANDERSON: What are the fuchsia the  
17 three large fuchsia areas, within that yellow block?

18 MR. FORD: Those represented where the actual  
19 open burn detonat<sup>ion</sup> activities occurred. The current OBOD  
20 area is this fuchsia area right here.

21 These are older ones that were used in the past,  
22 but at the time that the base closed they were not being  
23 used.

24 MS. AJEMIAN: The current OBOD unit was  
25 current at the time of base closure. It is not a currently





1 used site now.

2 MR. FORD: Correct.

3 MS. ANDERSON: So currently the site to be  
4 used in the burning of this equipment will be where?

5 MR. FORD: Right here. As a matter of fact,  
6 right there. That little spot.

7 MS. ANDERSON: So it will be the most recent  
8 area?

9 MR. FORD: Right. And again that's we  
10 wanted to use that because that's what the area was used  
11 for. It is remote. It has restricted access. It has an  
12 observations tower that we can use to monitor it, to  
13 control the burning. It seemed to us to be a much better  
14 place to control this operation.

15 MR. KNEEBONE: Just to pose a question,  
16 it's fairly dry here in the Southwest. What kind of fire  
17 prevention is involved?

18 MR. FORD: Okay. That's a very good  
19 question. What we're asking the contractor to do is  
20 they're going to be developing or they've got to construct  
21 some burn pans. Now, the burn pans themselves will be made  
22 of heavy gauge steel capable of maintaining the  
23 temperatures we're talking about. That will be used to  
24 hold the process equipment and any ash residue that would  
25 fall out of the process itself.



1 Now, the burn pans are going to be placed on a  
2 burn pad is what I've been calling it. We're going to pull  
3 dirt in, haul dirt in from -- not from the OBOD area. The  
4 OBOD area, there are some UXO conditions there that we  
5 don't want to do any digging or soil curves if we can  
6 possibly avoid that.

7 MS. ANDERSON: UXO?

8 MR. FORD: Unexploded ordnance. Thank you.  
9 So we'll be bringing dirt in from the outside for that.  
10 We'll be placing dirt in a two-foot layer underneath the  
11 burn pans themselves. We're going to have berms, two-foot  
12 high berms all the way around the burn pans except for a  
13 little access way that you can back a truck up to to unload  
14 the material. Then on top of that, we're going to -- and  
15 we have some options here.

16 This again is another one of those areas where  
17 we're leaving it up to the contractor to identify what they  
18 believe to be the safest, best, most efficient process, but  
19 one of the things that we offered was they can do a  
20 controlled burn of all of the combustible material within I  
21 think it's required like 200 feet of the burn pans itself.

22 So they would go in and do a controlled burn of  
23 all of this area. And this area itself is where the burn  
24 operations had occurred in the past. So right now the only  
25 thing that's really there are just grasses. You know, it's



1 not forested. It's just grass. So we think we can control  
2 that. I'm also requiring them to coordinate with the  
3 National Forest Service, the fire safety officer of the  
4 Forest Service.

5 And they will also, as part of their site safety  
6 and health plans and flash flaming plan and all that,  
7 they're going to have to propose to us how they're going to  
8 manage presence or control wild fires. So that would be  
9 positions equipment, that sort of thing.

10 MS. AJEMIAN: Are there requirements for  
11 weather conditions under the second burn?

12 MR. FORD: We have meteorological conditions  
13 also. And I honestly cannot recall those off the top of my  
14 head. But we have things if the wind is below a certain  
15 speed or above a certain speed, they can't do the burn.  
16 Gosh, they can't burn until 30 minutes after sunrise, and  
17 the burn has to be completed 30 minutes before sunset.  
18 They can't leave the burn unattended. There are a number  
19 of things like that. They have an entire string of  
20 meteorological conditions take have to be satisfied.

21 I see a question here.

22 MR. KELLY: Yes. David Kelly again. I just  
23 wanted I guess a status update on when we first started in,  
24 were we talking about a larger amount of OBOD areas rather  
25 than just the three? There were seven or something.



1 MR. FISHER: We had the main open burning  
2 detonation area plus two older areas that were used back in  
3 I believe the 50s or something like that.

4 MR. FORD: I think I know what you're  
5 getting at.

6 MR. KELLY: One to the south side there.

7 MR. FORD: Okay. These pink areas here or  
8 fuchsia, I guess is that the right color? Those areas  
9 represent the areas that were actually used for the open  
10 burn open detonation areas.

11 Now, part of the detonation process, you get  
12 kickouts a lot of times. You know, stockpile a big huge  
13 pile of mortars, grenades, bombs, et cetera. You detonate  
14 that, a certain percentage of those, they would go flying  
15 hither and yon. So kind of, not exactly of course, but  
16 kind of this yellow area represents a kickout boundary.  
17 That's where there is an unexploded ordnance hazard. I bet  
18 Steve can elaborate on that.

19 MR. EGNACZYK: Well, I wasn't sure if you  
20 were referencing the other areas or at least cleared in the  
21 area. Is that what you meant?

22 MR. KELLY: I think so.

23 MR. FORD: I answered the wrong question.

24 I'm sorry.

25 MR. EGNACZYK: There were a number of



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1 different areas. And maybe Carol will respond.

2 MS. YOUKEY: I'll be talking about those  
3 seven areas a little bit later.

4 MR. FORD: Actually those seven areas are on  
5 this map here. We have those little patched areas. Those  
6 are the areas that we have done clearance work at, where  
7 there was either the potential or suspected unexploded  
8 ordnances. And I know the DOD teams -- I shouldn't say<sup>D</sup>OD  
9 because these weren't military people -- UXO safety  
10 specialists would go in and they perform clearance  
11 activities in these particular areas here. And Carol,  
12 she'll be talking about <sup>the</sup>that status of that a little later.

13 MR. KELLY: Just one more area I wanted to  
14 raise. On that road, what's that? The bottom that purple  
15 area where it's called Woodland Road Number 10.

16 MR. FORD: Correct.

17 MR. KELLY: Somewhere around there is that  
18 area that's going to be fenced off? Isn't that in a  
19 depressed area? I mean a low lying area where there is a  
20 natural spring? There something like that?

21 MR. FORD: The fenced area. And you are  
22 talking about the fence around the area that the DOD wants  
23 to keep in DOT control in perpetuity?

24 MR. KELLY: Yes.

25 MR. FORD: That area is defined by the



1 yellow line here. That's the area that's going to be  
2 fenced. Now, let me say a word of caution about this map.  
3 This map is for conceptual uses. I mean, this right here  
4 is to give you an idea of who is using the base, what's  
5 planned out there, and a general idea of what's going on.

6 So for this fence that we're talking about around  
7 the OBOD area, you can't use this map to go out and drive  
8 survey stakes in the ground. I mean this is purely  
9 conceptual. But generally it's defined by this yellow  
10 area. I guess we're talking about possibly proceeding on  
11 that this summer, if possible, Larry?

12 MR. FISHER: Yes. And he asked about the  
13 spring. And the spring you're talking about is in the  
14 arroyo. It goes right down through the open burning  
15 detonation area.

16 MR. EGNACZYK: The current area, right.

17 MR. FISHER: The current area that we used  
18 up until we closed in 93.

19 MR. FORD: It's marked on here also.

20 MR. KELLY: Right. But what kind of  
21 remediations or what kind of assurances are you guys  
22 providing us to say that in the future -- see, sometimes it  
23 rains quite a bit out there -- that whatever is still  
24 buried there will not wash out to outside the fenced area?  
25 Is there any reassurance? I mean, I couldn't see putting a



1 huge concrete structure and putting a big dome or whatever,  
2 but how do we address that?

3 MS. AJEMIAN: Just for your information,  
4 I'll be speaking a little later on, but I am Katrina  
5 Ajemian. And my role with the Corps of Engineers is to  
6 address the structural environment here at Fort Wingate for  
7 Larry Fisher. And the concern you're addressing is one  
8 we're very sensitive to. Because that spring is supplying  
9 a wetland up there. So we're very interested.

10 Last year we did extensive fieldwork that was  
11 presented at a previous RAB identifying all the areas of  
12 waste and quantifying that waste.

13 In addition, this summer we are going in with a  
14 full field program that will start this summer and extend  
15 into next summer, which again will be briefed a little bit  
16 later in the program here that we hope will completely  
17 characterize and sample the groundwater so that we can make  
18 connections between the groundwater and the debris piles  
19 that we sampled last year with the goal that in fiscal year  
20 1999, we will develop a remediation design to address all  
21 these areas as part of the permanent closure of the OBOD  
22 unit we will prevent any future migration off of the site  
23 into the spring water or any other potential contamination.  
24 Does that answer your question?

25 MR. KELLY: That's what I'm looking for.



1 MS. BUCKEL: Cheryl Buckel. Does that  
2 include streambeds?

3 MS. AJEMIAN: We have included all that as  
4 well as we're --

5 MR. FORD: Well, that very topic, we did  
6 discuss today with Stu Dinwiddie, Chuck Hendrickson with  
7 the state. We talked about that some today is how can we  
8 best go about preventing erosion, wash out, still saving  
9 the wetlands minimizing impact.

10 Any other questions?

11 Okay. The buildings 536, 537. I believe that was  
12 your green fax sheet. The first thing I would like to do  
13 is clarify that with building's 536 and 537, we're talking  
14 about PCBs is the concern that we're addressing there;  
15 however, it's not the buildings that we're working with.  
16 They're power poles adjacent to the buildings. And we've  
17 simply tagged those as just kind of calling it the  
18 buildings 536, 537 project.

19 Back during the RIFS when the environmental  
20 investigation was going on as part of that efforts, ARN ?  
21 took some samples of a small stained area of soil beneath  
22 the power pole adjacent to one of the buildings, sent that  
23 off for analysis for PCBs, and sure enough it came back at  
24 some fairly low levels like 1.85 parts per million.

25 There was some confusion, some ambiguity, as to





1 where that sample was actually taken from. The stained  
2 area is no longer there. It's no longer evident. We  
3 weren't sure if it was the power pole associated with  
4 building 536 or the power pole associated with building  
5 537. So we thought we would go in and eliminate one of  
6 those by doing some additional sampling. We would take a  
7 couple samples at the building 536 site, a couple at the  
8 building 537 site, and whichever one of those had the PCBs  
9 then that's the one that we would clean, you know.

10 Well as luck would have it, we took some samples,  
11 found PCBs at both sites. We still believed that the  
12 source of the PCBs were the transformers which had been on  
13 the power poles. The transformers are no longer there.

14 At building 537 there is an elevated transformer  
15 platform. The transformers aren't there. They've been  
16 removed who knows when. At building 536 there is a single  
17 pole.

18 MR. NEZ: Where is the approximate location  
19 of that building, of 537, 536?

20 MR. FORD: I don't know if it will be  
21 labeled. It's right up here. And here again is one of the  
22 caveats with the map. You all are catching me on my areas  
23 at the map. Building 537 or what's labeled as building 537  
24 on this map is actually not building 537. That's being  
25 539. Building 537 is the little red dot immediately south



1 of where it's labeled. And that's one of the things that  
2 I've got to correct.

3 MR. NEZ: Is that the building that is  
4 current being used by the Navajo Nation Food Distribution  
5 Program?

6 MR. FISHER: No. It's quite a ways away  
7 from there.

8 MS. AJEMIAN: Point it out, Dwayne. The  
9 Navajo Nation building.

10 MR. FORD: Building 536 is right here.  
11 Well, if this detail continued, buildings 536 and 537 would  
12 be down here. The Navajo Nation is using the blue ones?  
13 Is that it? Those buildings right here. Buildings 536,  
14 537 is up in the what we call the workshop area the. The  
15 Navajo Nation is using the warehouse down in the admin  
16 area.

17 Does that take care of that?

18 We still thought that the transformers were the  
19 likely source of the PCBs. We expected it to be a very  
20 localized, very limited area of contamination. We elected  
21 to go in with a voluntary cleanup action, excavate the top  
22 foot of soil and expose that at the landfill. We were  
23 ordered a delivery order to perform that. We excavated 51  
24 cubic yards of material at buildings 536 and 537.  
25 Essentially we took a 16-foot radius around the poles



1 there. Excavated the top material. We took some in-place  
2 soil samples after we excavate down at the bottom of the  
3 excavation itself. And as luck would have it, once again  
4 we found higher concentration of PCBs.

5 So that caused us to step back and reevaluate our  
6 original thinking. And we decided instead of trying to  
7 proceed with further remedial actions at the site, we  
8 decided we really need some additional investigation.

9 So we have some additional investigation planned  
10 starting next week. We're going to have a crew out next  
11 week doing some soil sampling. They'll be using field test  
12 kits, immunoassay based field test kits for PCBs. They can  
13 detect PCBs for like 1 to 10 parts per million. They'll be  
14 doing sampling until they define the lateral extent and the  
15 vertical extent of the contamination. We'll be going  
16 laterally until we no longer detect the PCBs. We'll be  
17 augering down to five feet, taking samples at every foot,  
18 recording what we have.

19 Once we have those results then we plan on working  
20 with the regulatory agencies, figuring out what our course  
21 of action, what the best course of action would be.

22 Any questions on buildings 536, 537?

23 Okay. That was easy enough. Well, now I get to  
24 use some of my slides if I may.

25 Again the mission at Fort Wingate was to manage



1 munitions that the Army and Armed Services utilized. Part  
2 of that was safe storage of the munitions. Munitions were  
3 typically stored in large concrete structures covered with  
4 dirt that everybody commonly refers to as igloos.

5 Now, Fort Wingate has ten separate blocks of  
6 igloos, a total of about 730 scattered over the  
7 installation. The igloos since they did contain explosives  
8 and ordnance, they were investigated during the RI of this  
9 also. The samplers sampled 8 percent of the igloos, which  
10 came out I believe to 57 igloos sampled at random across  
11 the installation and white sand samples were collected for  
12 explosives. Of those 57 igloos, 11 of them did have  
13 explosive residues in them.

14 Now, one thing I want to make sure that everybody  
15 understands is that this was a very low concentration of  
16 explosives. It does not constitute an explosive safety  
17 hazard. There isn't enough there -- it will not detonate,  
18 but it was there. We felt that the explosives are present  
19 in the form of dust. It was just material that had  
20 sloughed or been scraped off of the explosives or the bulk  
21 of explosives, the ordnance or bulk of explosives, and  
22 deposited there in the igloos.

23 Since we didn't have a clear use planned for the  
24 igloos -- they could be used for residential food storage,  
25 food production -- we really have no idea what they will be



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1 ultimately used for. And we knew that we had the six  
2 explosives in site, we elected to go with a pilot wash  
3 using a hot water high pressure washing process to try to  
4 clean out eight of the eleven igloos where we had low  
5 explosives and evaluate how that system worked.

6 We had the objectives of the pilot wash to  
7 demonstrate that the high pressure hot water technique  
8 worked to develop the design data needed to do the  
9 production run of all 700 plus igloos. And then also to  
10 develop a good cost estimate identified most economical  
11 procedure for doing the pilot wash or for doing the  
12 production run. I'm sorry.

13 These are the igloos. I think that's the A  
14 block. But again there are ten separate blocks at Fort  
15 Wingate. And the igloos are the little bitty anthills that  
16 you can kind of see in the background there.

17 Here is another view of some of the igloos. Again  
18 the igloos are big concrete structures kind of shaped like  
19 a half cylinder if you will. They have a floor,  
20 cylindrical dome, all of it is concrete, covered with  
21 earth, covered with earth here. The front there is a blast  
22 wall and some doors.

23 This is a placard on one of the inside of the  
24 doors. Again the igloos were simply used to store and keep  
25 the munitions safe until distribution.



1 We mobilized for our pilot wash in early April.  
2 The system that we came up with was we were going to use  
3 the high pressure hot water process to wash the igloos.

4 So let me back up. First we were going to  
5 disinfect the igloos to take care of hanta virus concerns  
6 that we had. We've disinfected to take care of the hanta  
7 virus concerns that we had. We would then wash the  
8 interior of the igloos, all the entire interior surface of  
9 the igloos, with the power wash system.

10 We were going to collect the water the waste wash  
11 water using some trench drains that are inside the igloos.  
12 We were going to collect that. We wanted to recycle the  
13 water because in this area transporting water to each  
14 individual igloo will really drive up the costs. So we  
15 wanted to treat the water for the explosives. We elected  
16 to do that using a carbon absorption system and then we  
17 would use that same water on a subsequent igloo.

18 This is really the truck of the house the carbon  
19 absorption treatment system itself. And then some of the  
20 equipment like a generator there.

21 Again just mobilizing to do the actual wash. We  
22 had these drums used to disinfect for the hanta virus.  
23 They contained a bleach solution. We had a power washer  
24 right there. A generator. Some work lights. And then I  
25 have a better slide later on. But inside the truck are the



1 components of the treatment system itself.

2 This little pad is a little loading pad in front  
3 of each of the igloos.

4 Again just another view of the power washer pump  
5 to move the water. We used an effluent tank that would  
6 supply the power washer with water. After we washed then  
7 the water would be punched through the treatment system and  
8 into another carbon tank.

9 The igloos have a trench drain inside that  
10 discharges out the front face. And we elected to use that  
11 as our collection system. Right here we're getting ready  
12 to disinfect.

13 With the disinfect, we didn't want to cause any  
14 releases to the environment. So we turned the drain caps  
15 upside down and placed material -- really we're just  
16 getting ready to perform the wash here. This was a system  
17 that we came up with to utilize the existing drain  
18 structures in the igloos, again to capture the waste wash  
19 water. We constructed some special fittings and hoses that  
20 then would lead to the treatment system, or actually to the  
21 equalization tank for the treatment system.

22 This is inside of one of the igloos. We set up  
23 the work lights and exhaust fan. This is pretty much what  
24 it looked like inside. The trench drains on either side.  
25 You can't really see them in here, but there is one on this



1 side and there would be one on this side also.

2 Again really this is just our equipment.

3 This is the treatment system inside the truck. We  
4 had an equalization tank, the influent. Water would flow  
5 them from there through a couple of filters, a couple of  
6 prefilters that we had. We had a 50 micron and a 10 micron  
7 filter in series to remove any of the intended solids, any  
8 of the particulates that we had. The water would then flow  
9 out of the filters and into the carbon units that we had  
10 which are right here.

11 We had two 400-gallon carbon tanks. The water  
12 from the second carbon tank then was what was used to wash  
13 the following igloos. We had sample ports where we could  
14 sample each of the different stages throughout the system  
15 and evaluate the performance of it.

16 Getting started, essentially we're disinfecting  
17 starting with the door on this particular igloo. Doing  
18 some of the disinfection inside. This is the full power  
19 wash itself.

20 Again we did all of the interior surface the  
21 dome, the end walls, and the floor. You can see really  
22 where he has washed the darker area that is moist and then  
23 the area that he has yet to cover.

24 We used about 450 gallons on average per igloo and  
25 recovered anywhere from a half to two-thirds of that amount





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1 of water in our treatment system. The rest of it was lost  
2 to evaporation.

3 Power washing the floor, the trench drains.  
4 Collection system. We had two demonstration days that we  
5 invited interested organizations within the Department of  
6 Army to come see what we were doing. We had some interest  
7 from that. We also invited the regulatory agencies to come  
8 participate, see what we were doing. And here I think --  
9 do we have this gentleman in the audience?

10 We sampled or we performed sampling and documented  
11 what we had in the system to measure the performance,  
12 evaluated it, find areas that we could improve upon.

13 Here, I think we're measuring how much water we  
14 had captured out of a particular wash. We collected  
15 samples also inside the igloos. These were confirmation  
16 rinse samples that we collected from the walls themselves.

17 After the igloo was washed, we would go back in  
18 with a power washer, spray the wall, then body a little  
19 piece of PVC pipe that we had cut in half to collect the  
20 sample water, sent that off for analyses.

21 Did the same thing with the floor. We sampled at  
22 six different locations within each igloo.

23 This is performing sampling of the treatment  
24 itself. This is the influent, the equalization tank. So  
25 this would really be the sample right here really



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1 represents the waste wash water that would be coming out of  
2 the igloos.

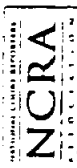
3 Then we had different sample ports like I said  
4 through the throughout the system. This is a sample port  
5 collecting a sample at the outflow of the prefilters.

6 And finally we did some sampling of the effluent  
7 obviously after the carbon absorption treatment.

8 Essentially what we found with the igloo pilot  
9 wash was after we had finished the wash we did have  
10 explosives still on the surface as detected by the wipe  
11 samples. We also found it in the rinse samples that we  
12 did. So that told me that we could still remove explosives  
13 from the walls. There was explosives still present in the  
14 walls.

15 We even did a rewash on one of the igloos to see  
16 how effective that would be. After the rewash, it still  
17 had explosives present on the wipe samples. That was  
18 done. We were able to remove the dust particulates within  
19 the igloos, all of those which represent really the mobile  
20 component of the contaminant. All of those were very  
21 effectively removed. So what's remaining on the walls, it  
22 is really stuck there. Again it's that very low, at very  
23 low concentrations.

24 Our treatment system was excellent at treating the  
25 explosives. Essentially the samples from the influent to



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1 the treatment system to the effluent of the treatment  
2 system cleaned the water completely. It is nondetectable  
3 for explosives at the effluent. We had some elevated  
4 levels at the influent. We know that we were removing the  
5 explosives from the igloos. We were placing some loading  
6 on the system. And the treatment system was quite  
7 effective in removing that.

8 One of the surprises that we found was we did find  
9 that there were metals in the igloos. We started seeing  
10 those in our influent samples to the treatment system. We  
11 started getting metals in those. It appears that those  
12 metals are particulates also. Lead was the one that caught  
13 our attention specifically. It appears that it's a  
14 particulate because the treatment system was able to remove  
15 that quite a bit from the influent to the effluent just  
16 through the fill interrogatory process itself.

17 We had the contractor go in and perform some wipe  
18 sampling on igloos that had not been washed to identify,  
19 see if the metals were actually present in the dust in the  
20 unwashed igloos, and we did find that. We sampled five  
21 igloos. All five of those did turn up heavy metals in the  
22 wipe samples that we collected.

23 There is a time report that's due a little later  
24 this month or a draft of it is due a little later this  
25 month. We're going to be evaluating ways that we can



1 improve the system, recommendations for improving the  
2 system, coming up with cost estimates, and trying to  
3 identify, see if there are any regulatory concerns  
4 associated with the metals that we found in the pilot wash  
5 itself.

6 Do I have any questions?

7 MR. KELLY: What kind of heavy metals did  
8 you find?

9 MR. FORD: We had the samples tested for the  
10 eight recommended. Metals so that would be arsenic,  
11 barium, chromium, silver, lead. We did the eight  
12 recommended.

13 MS. AJEMIAN: Selenium.

14 MR. FORD: Selenium. Again the one that  
15 really caught our eye was the lead. The other metals were  
16 at pretty low levels. The lead, though, does cause us some  
17 concern. We'll have to adjust our treatment system in the  
18 production room to accommodate that. Plus there are  
19 possibly some other implications at active Army  
20 installations. And we're evaluating what might need to be  
21 done as far as the worker protection issue there.

22 - Any further questions?

23 Well, I really appreciate everyone indulging me.  
24 First time presenting material to the RAB. I hope that I  
25 have the opportunity to come back.



1 At this point I'm going to turn it over to Ms.  
2 Carol Youkey. She's from Huntsville Corps of Engineers.  
3 And she will talk to you about the removing actions and  
4 what we're doing in that regard.

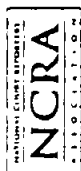
5 If anybody has questions, I'll be here after the  
6 meeting. I would be more than happy to talk to anyone that  
7 has additional questions.

8 Thank you-all.

9 MS. YOUKEY: Thanks, Dwayne. Carol Youkey  
10 with the Corps of Engineers in Huntsville. We do have the  
11 contract. We manage the contract with ordnance. That  
12 contract is with CMS Environmental.

13 Joe Mares is here. He's the project manager for  
14 the contractor. And although we manage that, we contract.  
15 So the contractor works for Huntsville who works for Fort  
16 Worth is the way that lines up.

17 Most of you know we started that work last year.  
18 We're not done yet. We have done a lot of work, and I <sup>would</sup> had  
19 like to bring you up to date on that. We have basically  
20 seven sites that we're doing some sort of ordnance  
21 clearance on at Fort Wingate. And last year we did  
22 start -- as I say, we started the effort last year. We  
23 began I believe in May of 96 and we worked most of the  
24 year, worked through the summer and the fall, even worked  
25 through about mid-December of last year. Then we broke for



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1 the winter season and we mobilized on the 3rd of April of  
2 this year.

3 And the first site that we started working at and  
4 the one that we have spent most of the time thus far this  
5 year is at the sewage treatment plant. And that is right  
6 here on your map.

7 See it? We completed that, completed on the 5th  
8 of June. It's about 8-and-a-half acres total. We did a  
9 four-foot subsurface clearance this year. Last year we had  
10 done a surface clearance. We found no OE scrap and nonOE  
11 scrap. And we did not find any live OE.

12 And I apologize. OE is an acronym that means  
13 ordnance and explosives. And it means the same thing as  
14 UXO basically or just plain ordnance. So any of those  
15 three terms you may hear me saying.

16 We are finished with that area except for some  
17 road repair that's going on right now. So that's one of  
18 the seven sites that we can put a checkmark by because it's  
19 really done.

20 Another site is the test range. We call it 2/3,  
21 the large area up in this corner. It's over 600 acres in  
22 size. And last year you may remember that we did a surface  
23 clearance of that New Mexico large test range.

24 We have not gone back into the area this year as  
25 of yet. We do plan to go in and do sampling on defined



1 grids in that area. We don't think that we're going to  
2 find a lot of ordnance. We have covered every square inch  
3 with a surface check. Every square inch has been checked  
4 with a magnetometer. And the contractor keeps a log of the  
5 number of anomalies that he finds in each grid. So by  
6 those records, we know that we're not going to find much in  
7 this particular area because they were very low anomalies  
8 or hits with the magnetometers. But we have selected  
9 defined grids that may be slightly suspect and we are going  
10 back and investigating those.

11 And the other large site is functional test range  
12 one, which is here. It's not quite that large. It's 378  
13 acres. It's a little different story in terms of what we  
14 expect to find because with the same process of logging  
15 anomalies we know that there are some areas where we will  
16 find some subsurface ordnance or we expect to. And we will  
17 be doing clearance on about 50 to 60 acres. And we are  
18 also going to sample about another 30 grids in that range.

19 In that particular range last year as we were  
20 doing the surface clearance, we did find I guess over 200  
21 items that had to be detonated. Most of those were moved  
22 to the OBOD area, but I think about 35 were actually blown  
23 in place. They were unsafe to move.

24 Another site that we're working on, one that we're  
25 working on right now, it's called the deactivation



1 furnaces. It's right in this area. It's about 17 acres,  
2 including the perimeter. Last year, we did find some OE  
3 items when we did our surface clearance. This year we have  
4 not found any as we're doing the subsurface takes what  
5 we're doing now. So far we haven't found any. We've only  
6 found scraps so far this year. And hopefully it will be  
7 finished towards the end of this month or early next month.

8 MS. ANDERSON: How do you do your subsurface  
9 clearance?

10 MS. YOUKEY: It's with the magnetometer  
11 checks. And when we have a hit, they dig by hand down to  
12 clear the anomaly.

13 MR. FISHER: What's the depth you're  
14 clearing to?

15 MS. YOUKEY: Four feet. Most of these items  
16 are also much more shallow than the four feet. You'll find  
17 them at the first foot or two. Another area of the seven  
18 is the OBOD area. Last year we did the detonations in  
19 there. Did demolition. And we cleaned it up quite a bit  
20 for the environmental work that was going on. This year so  
21 far we haven't had to use the OBOD area. The Group C  
22 disposal area is in this area here.

23 We have done it. That area was finished last year  
24 as far as the surface clearance. We don't expect to go  
25 back. We did our surface clearance and we found no OE





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1 scrap. And of course it's full of non OE scrap, but it's  
2 about 25 acres in size. I guess that one perhaps has some  
3 environmental concerns left and that will mean that it will  
4 have to be looked at in terms of ordnance when it comes to  
5 that time. But as far as other work under this contract,  
6 we're basically finished with that area as well.

7 The other area was the missile site. We first  
8 looked at the Pershing missile site and planned to do a  
9 surface clearance there, but we looked there and didn't  
10 find anything on the ground. Then we looked a little  
11 closer and found that it was the BLS missile site that  
12 we're planning to do the surface clearance on. So we  
13 looked into that area and did a surface clearance, but we  
14 didn't find any ordnance on that site.

15 So that one site can be cleared also. The only  
16 other item or area that we plan to do this year is some  
17 surface clearance around the OBOD boundary. And that will  
18 be scheduled later on this year. It's currently not in the  
19 contract, but we expect that that may be a requirement  
20 later on this year.

21 I'll be glad to answer any questions, but that  
22 summarized I think the work that's under way.

23 MR. KELLY: Let me ask a question on this  
24 green mine down here where this old demil~~X~~ area is, west of  
25 this reservation boundary line.



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1 MS. YOUKEY: Yes.

2 MR. KELLY: Where the surface clearance  
3 occurred I guess before and where the cleanup happened? Is  
4 it clearly staked now or is it marked off, identified  
5 somehow? I'm talking about here.

6 MR. FISHER: Now?

7 MR. KELLY: Do we have anything out there to  
8 identify that this area was cleared?

9 MS. YOUKEY: I'm almost certain it was  
10 surveyed, but I don't know of any markers.

11 MR. FISHER: There are no markers or  
12 anything showing the area. Not there.

13 MS. AJEMIAN: Essentially we cleared --  
14 Carol's team cleared all offpost area. The boundary marker  
15 we were trying to clear to was the reservation boundary so  
16 that we can state there is no offpost post ordnance left.

17 MR. FORD: I would also like to mention that  
18 that hashed area right there, when we developed this  
19 particular map, we did not have that particular information  
20 available. We knew that that clearance had been done so I  
21 put that little rectangle in there as almost a place holder  
22 saying we know that a clearance was done here, but I don't  
23 really know what the boundaries are.

24 MR. KELLY: It's not to scale.

25 MR. FORD: Not to scale or not to shape.



1 MR. SOLZNO: Phillip Solzno from NMED. You  
2 did generate that five volume report on that area, right?

3 MR. KELLY: Yes, I've seen it.

4 MS. YOUKEY: Any other questions? I think  
5 Katrina has the next talk.

6 MS. AJEMIAN: Thank you, Carol. Carol  
7 Youkey has really done a fantastic job, not just in their  
8 clearance activities, but in supporting all other  
9 activities.

10 As you probably guessed, in many cases the  
11 environmental restoration overlaps with UXO concerns. And  
12 they've always been there to support us very well.

13 I would like to just briefly go over the actions  
14 that we have initiated at this time, and we'll go into our  
15 summer field season. We have three or actually four if you  
16 count the ongoing clearance activities that we will have  
17 actual remedial actions this summer.

18 The first is with building 503. That is the wash  
19 out plan that Dwayne discussed earlier in depth. We opened  
20 bids'successfully on that project yesterday, the 10th. And  
21 the low bidder on that project is Sinetec, Incorporated,  
22 out of Idaho Falls, Idaho.

23 This contract has not yet been awarded. The bid  
24 documents have to be evaluated for both accuracy and for  
25 completeness, but at this time they are the low bidder. We



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1 are looking to award the contract by the end of this  
2 month. It will be approximately a 90-day <sup>Ramp</sup> ramp up period  
3 where the contractor will be completing all their work plan  
4 submittals and their documents before actually giving them  
5 a notice to proceed. It will be an approximately 270-day  
6 contract. So we're looking at having that building  
7 completely remediated and the site restored about a year  
8 from now.

9 Any questions on that? That site?

10 Okay. Two other areas that have been classified  
11 as an area of concern in the remedial investigation  
12 feasibility study on which we are moving out with medial  
13 actions are, one, the pesticide contaminated soil outside  
14 building five in the administration area.

15 When you enter Fort Wingate, go past the guard  
16 shack, the first long building on your right, D5 is the  
17 admin area. And in this lawn between B5 and the roadway,  
18 there is pesticides in the upper foot of soil.

19 And we are this week awarding a delivery order to  
20 CC&C Group, Incorporated, who will be proceeding with  
21 excavation and disposal of that material. Since the RIFS  
22 is not completely approved and we did not have the signed  
23 record of decision we are preparing a proposed plan of  
24 intermittent remedial action, which will go out for public  
25 comment. And it will be available during the public



1 comment period at the next Restoration Advisory Board  
2 meeting, which is tentatively in September. So we'll be  
3 looking at doing the actual bidding on that in the October  
4 time frame.

5 The second site that we are moving on during the  
6 summer is the pistol range where we have lead contaminated  
7 soil. We are prepared to award the action under the same  
8 delivery order as building five. That area is right up  
9 here. We're going to award it. However, there has been  
10 some interest expressed to <sup>date</sup> ~~due~~ tell from the State of New  
11 Mexico to continue using that pistol range. So, although we  
12 are awarding it, we have been asked and have agreed to hold  
13 until about August before we start any action on that site  
14 so that New Mexico can pursue a formal request.

15 MR. KELLY: Which organization in New  
16 Mexico?

17 MR. FISHER: State police.

18 MR. KELLY: State police?

19 MS. AJEMIAN: Now, if that formal request  
20 comes through and is honored then we will have to work with  
21 the state and with the EPA to go back and reevaluate the  
22 recommended remedial action at that site because obviously  
23 it makes no sense to clean it up if it's going to be  
24 continued to use as a pistol range.

25 MR. FISHER: There <sup>are</sup> ~~is~~ a lot of things we



1 have to work out, you know. Department of Interior of  
2 course, you know, has to be involved in that process also.

3 MR. KELLY: Right. Our tribe needs to know  
4 about that, too, because it can complicate matters for us,  
5 too.

6 MS. AJEMIAN: And then the fourth remedial  
7 action after building 503, the pistol range and the admin  
8 area, building 5, is the ongoing clearance actions.

9 And, Carol, correct me if I don't have this right,  
10 but this summer there will be subsurface a test range 2/3,  
11 test at ~~one~~ and the deactivation, which they are  
12 currently working right now. And then we hope, or are  
13 considering working on the potential fencing of this area,  
14 at which time they would also support us in that action.

15 MS. YOUKEY: That's correct.

16 MR. NEZ: As I mentioned in the beginning of  
17 the meeting, I am one of the technical team members on the  
18 Fort Wingate Reuse Team. So essentially what we have done  
19 thus far is that we have jointly planned with the city of  
20 Gallup, BLM, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Navajo Nation and  
21 the Zuni Nations as to how to jointly utilize the  
22 facilities. But of course we are just a dot in this whole  
23 bureaucratic organization in which our political leaders  
24 have to make that decision as to who inherits the Fort  
25 Wingate. However, we have set a precedent into the



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1 utilization of the facilities.

2 So my question is related to what are the  
3 possibilities of -- can I point this out?

4 MS. AJEMIAN: Please. Help yourself.

5 MR. NEZ: What are the possibilities of  
6 remediating the entire facilities as well as the front  
7 facilities up here as well as here? And then perhaps  
8 further on instead of just jumping around like you  
9 indicated?

10 MS. AJEMIAN: Well, the reason we're jumping  
11 around is that we ~~can~~ did a thorough investigation of the  
12 entire installation. And the areas we are focusing on are  
13 the only areas of environmental contamination that needs to  
14 be addressed. For instance, you mentioned this  
15 administration area. The only soil that needs remediation  
16 in this entire area is this one strip that we are  
17 proceeding on with. So once we do that one strip right  
18 here, this soil area is clean. Along this boundary, we  
19 have no contamination. So what we have done is narrowed it  
20 down to the only areas left on the installation with  
21 contamination. And the other areas are not being addressed  
22 because it has at this time been determined they are free  
23 of contamination.

24 MR. NEZ: Well, I had heard that there is  
25 also asbestos in some of these facilities that could be



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1 harmful. So what we want to do is rehabilitate some of  
2 those facilities and then to look at commercial development  
3 close to the Frontage Road as well as industrial in the  
4 back portion. So, whose responsibility is it to say it is  
5 safe to utilize these facilities?

6 MS. AJEMIAN: The asbestos concern is an  
7 Army policy position that I'm going to defer to Ed Agy who  
8 will address the policy on that.

9 MR. AGY: Currently from the Army  
10 standpoint, if we have nonfriable asbestos, which is  
11 essentially stuff that they can't crumble and can't become  
12 readily airborne, that type of asbestos, the nonfriable  
13 type, which essentially is shingles on buildings or wrapped  
14 or pipe installation that has not become friable that's  
15 encapsulated in some fashion, that type of asbestos is not  
16 required by the Army to remediate and dispose of. We can  
17 legitimately transfer that property to others, in this case  
18 the Department of the Interior.

19 MS. AJEMIAN: And the basis for that is that  
20 being nonfriable there is no exposure pathway. There is no  
21 industrial hygiene risk.

22 MR. AGY: So as it sits right now, we do not  
23 intend to remediate any of those nonfriable asbestos areas  
24 prior to transfer to in this case Department of Interior,  
25 because of the -- as indicated because of the danger.





1 MS. AJEMIAN: No risk.

2 MR. NEZ: I have also heard that there is  
3 also underground steam pipes that were wrapped with  
4 asbestos. So those are some of the concerns that we have.  
5 And how and who should we look to to remediate those  
6 problems?

7 MR. AGY: If it needs to be remediated --  
8 excuse me for interrupting. If it does need to be  
9 remediated, then Larry Fisher is the base ~~of~~ BRAC's  
10 environmental coordinator and Katrina as his executing  
11 agency are the proper people to address that, too. But as  
12 Katrina already indicated, they have made an extensive  
13 survey of this area. And certainly correct me if I'm  
14 wrong, but we don't have any knowledge that those pipes  
15 exist in the case of a human health risk.

16 MS. AJEMIAN: Underground steam pipes is  
17 news to me. And, Larry, I don't know if you're aware of  
18 it.

19 MR. FISHER: I'm not aware of any  
20 underground steam pipes. Usually our steam pipes are above  
21 ground.

22 MS. AJEMIAN: If you know of some  
23 specifically underground, please point those out to us  
24 after the meeting because there is something new that we  
25 would like to investigate.



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1 MR. FORD: Now, a lot of the underground  
2 pipes did have asbestos in the cement.

3 MS. AJEMIAN: Concrete pipe.

4 MR. FORD: Those again would be a nonfriable  
5 type. Those can't become airborne in the exposure pathway.

6 MS. AJEMIAN: And I apologize. I did not  
7 fully understand your question. I was focusing on just the  
8 soil in this area. I was not thinking the buildings  
9 interior as well we do have one building, building 11,  
10 which is right here, which is also known as the locomotive  
11 shop. And that building in addition to being the  
12 locomotive shop is the substation, the electrical  
13 substation for the entire depot.

14 As such, there has been through the years a lot of  
15 PCB containing equipment. And so we have significant PCB  
16 stains on the concrete. And there is some PCB in the sump  
17 and we have at this point not fully defined the extent of  
18 the PCBs.

19 One of the actions this summer is to go in and  
20 thoroughly investigate that building so we have a complete  
21 analysis of the type and extent of PCB contamination. So  
22 there is some work necessary to be done on that building.

23 MR. FISHER: Steve?

24 MR. EGNACZYK: Just going to mention  
25 building 6 also has just a completion of underground



1 storage tank removal.

2 MS. AJEMIAN: Oh, okay. Building 6. I  
3 wasn't sure what you were talking about. There is nothing  
4 in the building. It's the UST, underground storage tank.  
5 We had two sites within the admin area where Albuquerque  
6 district has been involved in the pooling of an underground  
7 storage tank and any remedial action that went with it.

8 The first is building 6 right here behind the  
9 building 5 area. Building 6 is the old fuel depot, the old  
10 gas station. The tank was pulled when Fort Wingate was  
11 closed back in 1993. There was indication of some pit  
12 product releases. Albuquerque District has gone in and  
13 installed monitor wells. And this month we are awarding --  
14 they are awarding a delivery order to sample those wells  
15 for eight quarters to verify that there has been no  
16 migration or release to groundwater from any of those  
17 groundwater from any of those underground storage tanks.

18 Initially the firehouse right here, which  
19 everybody now knows as the caretakers shop, had an -- it  
20 was pulled by Albuquerque district in November. There was  
21 no indication of any release and they are now in the  
22 process of preparing the minimum site assessment. Just  
23 had total mind blank for a moment.

24 That will close out that site. All the buildings  
25 do have the potential for lead base paint, but it is on the



1 building in relatively good condition. It's not an  
2 exposure pathway and there is no requirement for us to  
3 remediate the paint. At this point we do have a survey on  
4 that.

5 MR. FORD: Sailed we also have a survey on  
6 that also.

7 MR. FISHER: We know which buildings have  
8 asbestos. We know which buildings have lead base paint.  
9 I've never seen a reuse plan. We can't determine which  
10 buildings we're going to clean. We're not going to go in  
11 and clean up every one unless we know what the building is  
12 going to be used for. So if you have a school in there,  
13 yeah, we'll be responsible for cleaning up the asbestos and  
14 lead based paint.

15 MR. KELLY: Let me interject something  
16 here. It would have been good if the tribe was much more  
17 involved from the get-go with the RAB process. And I even  
18 raised some of these issues before at the council level and  
19 all that. But now it's starting to come about now, which  
20 is good, and now they're raising these issues, which I've  
21 been raising a while back. And I think that what was  
22 happening recently as more and more people are getting  
23 interested in these facilities out there, they want to  
24 reuse it, okay?

25 Now, the tribe is working with the Zuni Nation and



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1 all that, developing a reuse plan. They had a reuse plan  
2 earlier on, but I think they're going to revise that again  
3 and come up with a better plan. That's going to come  
4 about, okay? But they also need to give him a draft copy  
5 of what their intended purposes for these instructors are  
6 for.

7 MR. FISHER: Have you been working with  
8 Malcolm Walden on that? Because originally <sup>he</sup> we worked with  
9 trying to set up <sup>it</sup> and between the two different tribes, and  
10 it just doesn't seem to be going anywhere. And it was just  
11 disbanded. And that's where everything just ceased.

12 MR. NEZ: I think that's a misconception by  
13 people other than the Zuni and Navajo tribe. Because like  
14 I said earlier, we have done what we can with the city,  
15 with the County, with BLM, the BIA, and everybody, everyone  
16 else that's concerned. We have done everything we can  
17 within the scope of the delegation that we have been  
18 appointed to.

19 Now, we have presented this plan with a joint  
20 effort to develop the front part of the Fort Wingate. It  
21 is then a political decision by both tribes, the county,  
22 and the city who is going to inherit the Fort Wingate.  
23 That's where it's at. We, as a technical team, can't make  
24 that decision. So I think this is the scenario of  
25 mislabeling it as a not getting the job done or not



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1 cooperating.

2 MS. AJEMIAN: We would be very much  
3 interested in seeing this plan. We are completely ignorant  
4 of it. We have not seen it and are not aware of it. And  
5 it would be very useful to us in addressing a question like  
6 the asbestos.

7 At this point there has been no requirement or  
8 incentive to address the asbestos, even to further  
9 investigate it, because we have not had any use and we  
10 can't determine what the need might be. Because obviously  
11 like schools have very specific asbestos requirements. So  
12 if you could share that with us, it would be very  
13 beneficial.

14 MR. KELLY: I think from the reuse committee  
15 they need to provide a draft of what their intended  
16 purposes is to your organization.

17 MR. FISHER: That will be fine. And on this  
18 issue here we need to get another individual involved. And  
19 I was hoping he would be here tonight, and hopefully he'll  
20 still show up. That's Malcolm Walden. He's the BRAC  
21 transition coordinator.

22 MR. AGY: If I could add, what the Army, as  
23 I mentioned before, has to deal with is the Department of  
24 Interior. Now, I realize that BLM and BIA are subsets for  
25 lack of better term of DOI, but unfortunately bureaucratic



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1 process, we can't work directly with you folks at this  
2 stage of the game. That doesn't mean we can't take your  
3 plan and try to understand what's there. But we need from  
4 Department of Interior, both from our point, but we need  
5 you folks to try to push from your standpoint to get Army  
6 at our higher levels and Department of Interior at their  
7 higher levels to get together to understand your  
8 requirements for clean up so that we could try to integrate  
9 those into our process.

10 The unfortunate part of where we're at right now  
11 is we're quite a ways downstream. So the quicker we can  
12 make that happen, the better off we'll be to try to utilize  
13 a few dollars that we have available right now to try to  
14 investigate that into our current plan.

15 So again <sup>what am</sup> trying to stress ~~that~~ is that we need you  
16 guys to get that plan if you can up to the highest level of  
17 the Department of Interior. And if we get a copy of that  
18 we will also try to do the same thing through the Army  
19 channels so that we can get those two entities to the top.  
20 Because that's where the decision is going to be made. We  
21 can talk <sup>until</sup> ~~into~~ we're blue in the face, but that's where it  
22 has got to be made.

23 MR. NEZ: I understand that. And where I am  
24 also coming from is the fact that the county, McKinley  
25 County, wants a part of the action.



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1 MR. FISHER: I think there is a mention of  
2 3,000 acres or something.

3 MR. NEZ: Yes. And then there is also the  
4 city that wants to be a part of the action in the  
5 acquisition of Fort Wingate, knowing that the forefront of  
6 this whole transferring of the Fort Wingate property is  
7 that the Department of Interior is the person or the entity  
8 that will first inherent this land and then go back to the  
9 Bureau of Indian Affairs, which would hold in trust for the  
10 Navajo and the Zuni Nations. That's the ultimate  
11 understanding that we have.

12 But in the meantime, the city is trying to jump in  
13 and confuse the issue. The same way with the county. And  
14 then the former residents of the Fort Wingate before the US  
15 Army took it over. These are elderly citizens now who were  
16 children who were forcefully removed from that area. They  
17 want a say-so in this. So now the Zuni and the Navajo  
18 Nation with the Bureau of Indian Affairs have come to the  
19 explicit conclusion, this is what we're going to do. But  
20 we want to hold a portion of this Fort Wingate as a holding  
21 company by the Navajo and the Zuni Nation to lease out  
22 parcels of this land for commercial development. The city  
23 cannot come up with its plans. The county cannot come up  
24 with its plans. All it is is just political rhetoric.

25 MR. FISHER: Well, yes, I think if you could





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1 provide me that information, I will definitely tell it to  
2 the right people and see if we can't get moving on this  
3 again. I was totally unaware this was still going on. So  
4 if you could give me that information and a point of  
5 contact or whatever, if you furnish that to me, I will give  
6 it to Mr. Walden and have him start looking into this  
7 again.

8 MS. AJEMIAN: Before we leave the issue,  
9 Cheryl Buckel with the Albuquerque district has done some  
10 asbestos work in the past. Could you elaborate on that a  
11 little bit? Do you have any information on that?

12 MS. BUCKEL: It was in one of the buildings  
13 in the administration area.

14 MS. AJEMIAN: I know they did some abatement  
15 in building 501. So there has not been any done in these  
16 buildings themselves. But we do have a survey of all these  
17 buildings. We do know the conditions as friable or  
18 nonfriable and that was done by Pickering a while back,  
19 Fermin Pickering.

20 MR. KELLY: We would like a copy of the  
21 survey because that way I can provide information to the  
22 group that's talking about doing the reuse plan. Because  
23 these are old buildings, okay, and asbestos was used widely  
24 back then.

25 MS. AJEMIAN: Is it in the administrative



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1 record?

2 MR. EGNACZYK: It's in the RIFS, yes.

3 MS. AJEMIAN: Okay. The RIFS does include  
4 the original survey which was accomplished by Pickering as  
5 well as a visual confirmation. And that is on hold at the  
6 public library and at the Navajo Nation and EPA.

7 MR. KELLY: Okay. I will dig that up.

8 MR. FISHER: Yes. If you can't find it, let  
9 me know and I will help you out.

10 MR. KELLY: Initial reaction from people to  
11 asbestos when people saw the siding there was, "Hey, those  
12 need to be removed." Contrary to DOD policy, I guess. But  
13 that's a problem that we have within the tribe. We have a  
14 lot of transfers of structures to the Navajo Nation. And  
15 over time things get burned down or whatever and then the  
16 item becomes friable. So that's a problem that you guys  
17 are going to have to keep in the back of your mind.

18 Would it be much better to just go ahead and do  
19 the abatement removing of the siding and then also the pipe  
20 insufation? The pipe insulation I would fear much more  
21 than the trans<sup>siti</sup>land site because it's there. We know it's  
22 still covered up in certain areas, but they do come a part  
23 over time.

24 MS. AJEMIAN: Mr. Kelly, when we have the  
25 proposed use of those buildings, that is certainly



1 something we can entertain.

2 MR. AGY: And certainly if you can forward  
3 that type of concern up the chain quite obviously to DOI  
4 along with your concerns that the reuse then that can be  
5 articulated to Army and then we can address that firsthand  
6 from secretary to secretary essentially, Secretary of Army  
7 to Secretary of Interior so we can make sure that that  
8 level is of the understanding of how asbestos will be  
9 treated.

10 Right now I feel very comfortable in the fact that  
11 what I just got through explaining to you is what the Army  
12 continues to have as their policy. And that doesn't mean  
13 that we can't listen and negotiate. But it's got to be  
14 within reason. And also within the funding that we have  
15 available to us.

16 MR. KELLY: What if in the case where we  
17 deem a building or in some organization miraculously got  
18 together and said we don't want that building? They made a  
19 decision, okay. What in a case like that?

20 MS. AJEMIAN: We would need to hear that  
21 from the Department of Interior because they are the only  
22 ones that can accept the facility from us. If they were to  
23 come back to us with a refusal to accept a building based  
24 on an environmental concern dialogue, negotiations would  
25 have to be entered into at the highest level.



1 MR. KELLY: Right. Like the train station  
2 we were talking about. There is a potential it might be  
3 better just to demolish it completely versus trying to  
4 renovate or trying to refurbish it whatever.

5 MS. AJEMIAN: You're referring to the  
6 locomotive shop?

7 MR. KELLY: Yes.

8 MS. AJEMIAN: Right. One of the concerns  
9 here is that the power shop. But all those concerns as has  
10 been mentioned, this is a highly political environment.  
11 And at this level we're as much at the whims of the  
12 politicians and the political concerns as each of you are.  
13 And those decisions are made above us. So if you could  
14 express those upward, that would be probably helpful to all  
15 of us. Because I think we all have the same goal. We want  
16 to get this going. And we want to start to effect some  
17 transfer.

18 MR. NEZ: Just to shed a little bit of light  
19 on to what we are proposing to do, I mentioned earlier that  
20 we would like to develop the front close to the entrance,  
21 the area for commercial development, and "commercial,"  
22 meaning hotels, restaurants, and shops of different types.

23 MS. AJEMIAN: The frontage along the highway  
24 that would ease the access.

25 MR. NEZ: Yes. And retails of this nature.



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1 And then toward the back we are thinking maybe perhaps of  
2 some penal institutions, learning training centers, and  
3 youth facilities of this type. And I have been in the  
4 entire Fort Wingate. I'm sure most of you have. And in  
5 the back part of it is very, very pristine area.

6 MS. AJEMIAN: "Back part," you're referring  
7 to this area and around the corner?

8 MR. NEZ: Right. In that area. And I saw  
9 this during the summer months. And I saw and found some  
10 Navajo medicinal herbs that are now very rare on the main  
11 part of the reservation. And it's plentiful on the Fort  
12 Wingate property. So my bleeding heart says preserve a  
13 good portion of that, maybe jointly do this with the US  
14 Forest Service. But we don't have a plan. We haven't the  
15 foggiest idea as to how to utilize those igloos.

16 MS. AJEMIAN: Ron?

17 MR. KNEEBONE: During the cultural resource  
18 investigations, we did invite folks to visit out there.  
19 And that was one of the new things that were brought out in  
20 our report that a lot of medicine herbs used by the Navajo,  
21 a lot of features in the landscape important to the Zuni as  
22 well, are present at Fort Wingate that are unique out  
23 there. It's a very important place to both units.

24 MS. AJEMIAN: The report you're referring  
25 will be available when?



1 MR. KNEEBONE: The report -- it should be  
2 the final -- is coming to press within the next couple of  
3 weeks. And actually we have drafts and executive summaries  
4 of it still available at our headquarters office, but  
5 that's been noted and that's one of the things that I try  
6 to keep in mind when we talk about going on to review.

7 MR. NEZ: Mr. Fisher, when you say you need  
8 our reuse plan, I think we're having our standoff position  
9 here. We are trying to say reuse, but you are saying how  
10 do we utilize these facilities. And like I said, kind of a  
11 standoff.

12 MR. FISHER: Yes, sounds like we need to  
13 probably get back together again and develop this reuse  
14 committee, whatever it was called, before between the  
15 Navajo and the Zuni and get that active. Again if that's a  
16 possibility, I think we ought to try that, but I need again  
17 to discuss that with Mr. Malcolm Walden. Because he was  
18 the individual that worked hard in getting that set up and  
19 going. And if there is still a possibility we could do  
20 that, I think it would be great.

21 MR. KELLY: One thing I'm going to recommend  
22 is that we had some pretty good discussions going on here  
23 with the status of the ongoing clearance process and all  
24 that. Maybe some kind of executive summary of what's going  
25 on here may be good coming from your organization to the



1 reuse planning group that he's talking about. That would  
2 really shed some light on what's going on here for them.

3 MS. AJEMIAN: Okay. You're talking about  
4 the same type of presentation you're giving here  
5 specifically to --

6 MR. KELLY: It doesn't necessarily have  
7 to be that. But when is your next time coming up?

8 MR. FISHER: To come out for a RAB? 10  
9 September.

10 MR. KELLY: 10 September. Well, maybe  
11 before, that maybe put some kind of a documentation  
12 together, not real extensive, just talk about these are the  
13 key issues.

14 MR. FISHER: Just kind of summarize  
15 everything we've done and what's going on.

16 MS. ANDERSON: I'm from the base  
17 reassignment closure office at the headquarters. And the  
18 reuse plan is the primary document that has to be  
19 forthcoming.

20 MR. KELLY: I know that.

21 MS. ANDERSON: But there are parts of the  
22 depot, which are clean as you've heard. And the DOI might  
23 be persuaded to accept those parts of the depot which are  
24 clean by parcels rather than wait until the entire depot  
25 itself is clean. So there might be some potential for your



1 working through your BIA, BLM, DOI chain. And that's why  
2 Mr. Fisher is saying it's very important -- Mr. Agy has  
3 said it, too -- for you to work up your chain.

4 Because the decisions for the timing of the  
5 transfer of any or all of that property will be made at the  
6 Secretary of Army, Secretary of Department of Interior  
7 level, those at our level. But, you know, utilize your  
8 chain. Keep them involved. Let them know that you wish to  
9 cooperate and work with the local communities. And get  
10 this reuse plan under way and that you're going to be  
11 moving out on it. And they should be considering what  
12 their options are, and one of their options is they don't  
13 have to wait until the entire depot is ready. They can  
14 look to take over portions of it early.

15 MS. AJEMIAN: DOI has been very reluctant to  
16 talk to us about receiving parcels; however, the Army is  
17 very eager to release parcels. And an area you have  
18 expressed explicit interest in is this frontage area, which  
19 is prime real estate. You have an access right here at  
20 Fort Wingate. Access from this on out, there is nothing.  
21 There are no buildings. There is no contamination. This  
22 real estate could easily be released if DOI was interested  
23 in it.

24 MS. ANDERSON: But the key is getting the  
25 community to agree on a plan.





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MR. NEZ: Is that a potential floodplain?

MS. AJEMIAN: That is the Puerco River.

MR. KNEEBONE: Speaking for the Corps of Engineers, I don't think there has ever been a floodplain analysis.

MR. NEZ: South of I-40 is what I'm talking about.

MS. ANDERSON: North is on your left so it is kind of skewed.

MS. AJEMIAN: Right.

MS. ANDERSON: Now, there is a southern portion of how many acres.

MS. ANDERSON: 6,000. That is also clean.

MS. AJEMIAN: So from about here down, about 6,000 acres that's clean as well.

MS. AJEMIAN: However, again DOI may not be willing to enter into dialogue to accept just that portion. You may be able to put pressure on them that we cannot.

MS. ANDERSON: The squeaking wheel gets the attention.

MR. KNEEBONE: So to speak.

MS. ANDERSON: You elevate up your chain and we can elevate up our chain and hopefully we can get something going.



1 MR. NEZ: Well, over time, I try to elevate  
2 some squeeze within the tribe somewhere.

3 MS. AJEMIAN: We have just one more  
4 technical issue to cover before closing up this meeting.  
5 I've given you a summary of the actions the Corp has  
6 directly. We do have a contractor, ERM, that many of you  
7 are familiar with, I think. The ERM and Larry Fisher have  
8 been involved with this facility since the get-go of BRAC.  
9 And they will have some investigations ongoing this  
10 summer. So Steven Egnaczyk with BRM will come down and let  
11 you know what they'll be doing this summer for us.

12 MR. EGNACZYK: Thanks. I'll try to just  
13 speak from this. I didn't know Dwayne would be upgrading  
14 the visual presentations. So I didn't bring any slides.

15 Now this medicinal herbs out there that could help  
16 my allergies is really frustrating. So we would like to  
17 find out about those.

18 For everybody's information, most of the site work  
19 that has been going on at Fort Wingate is really two  
20 programs, the recover program and the status closure of the  
21 DOD area. I will speak to both of those separately because  
22 they had started out as separate issues.

23 We're in discussions with the State of New Mexico  
24 and the EPA right now. Those two programs really are  
25 merging as far as the functional intent. So that's why I



1 will kind of address them as two separate areas just in how  
2 we are going to focus along on some of our activities this  
3 summer and then follow into the 1988 field season.

4 Two areas I'll be talking about today as the FOT  
5 wash out area in association with building 563, the  
6 leaching beds that are all located in the northern  
7 direction of the 503 area that Dwayne had given his  
8 presentation about earlier. The decontamination and  
9 demolition of that will occur sometime this summer, I  
10 presume.

11 Then the OBOD area we have the current OBOD area  
12 and closed OBOD area where we had complemented activities  
13 last summer. And basically the activities we plan to do  
14 this summer and following on to the 1988 field season  
15 really is a follow up principally from the hydrogeologic  
16 viewpoint.

17 We did a characterization in the wash out area  
18 principally from a soils contamination standpoint early on  
19 to try to bound the soils contamination. It might have  
20 been associated with the wash out waters that were fed to  
21 the various leaching beds in that building. This past  
22 summer we went out there and installed five monitoring  
23 wells to really investigate groundwater wells in the  
24 vicinity. One was a background well and four wells were  
25 down gradient of both sets of TNT leaching beds, assuming



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1 that groundwater direction basically to the northern  
2 portion of the installation.

3 MR. NEZ: Is that a general area where ~~TKL~~ <sup>TPC</sup>  
4 is now located?

5 MR. EGNACZYK: That's actually just to the  
6 south of that where ~~TKL~~ <sup>TPC</sup> is located in this area up to on a  
7 ridge and the wash out area is in a lower area.

8 The investigations that we implemented detected  
9 groundwater at a fairly shallow depth 30 to 40 feet, I  
10 think was the range, and explosives were detected in those  
11 wells. I think I could probably say that principally the  
12 groundwater was not of a volume that one would assume that  
13 there was a groundwater plume migrating from this area off  
14 the installation.

15 I'm not a geologist so if you will respect my lay  
16 man's interpretation of it, what we have is groundwater  
17 conditions that existed, and then in the areas, just the  
18 groundwater in that area, it's probably an intermingling  
19 groundwater that might be interspersed in various areas.  
20 It's not going to be a solid plume where you can go down  
21 and put in a set of wells and boulder that area and see if  
22 you can really see.

23 So what we plan to do this summer is actually go  
24 in with another set of wells back to that solid depth and  
25 then also with a deeper depth, number one, making, sure



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1 that there are no groundwater conditions. What we had  
2 detected are really focused in the shallow water depth and  
3 then to boulder that and also to look forward to some  
4 proposed restoration plan to groundwater in that area.  
5 These pretty much <sup>to</sup> what will be done this summer.

6 We're going to go back in, put in another ten  
7 wells in the shallow depth. And I believe it is another --  
8 let me get the right number here. I'm sorry. 30 soil  
9 absorption to first one in the shallow water depth and two  
10 absorption in a deeper depth assumed to be 80 feet. And  
11 those activities will be started hopefully around the 1st  
12 of August. We have a set of work plans that we will submit  
13 to the Fort Worth District for review and then we will  
14 implement that around the 1st of August.

15 Are there any questions on the TNT wash out area?

16 Okay. The second area is truly a very baffling  
17 area: OBOD area. If you are familiar with the area at  
18 all, you will recognize the high ridge that runs along the  
19 western portion of the installation if you've ever driven  
20 down the highway.

21 Well, of all things, they decided to put the OBOD  
22 areas right in probably one of the most confusing geologic  
23 areas on the site of the installation. What we did last  
24 summer was in the current OBOD area and the arroyo in the  
25 closed OBOD area.



1 And just to back up, they are very distinct in the  
2 arroyos. The current OBOD areas contains a spring and  
3 contains areas that would be considered wetland areas,  
4 certainly within the State of New Mexico. Back East, we  
5 just have a lot more water. So it's just a difference in  
6 visual dry spots.

7 So I certainly don't like to use our eastern  
8 perceptions. When I'm out here, you-all get a little upset  
9 about that. Because basically it is more of a green  
10 arroyo. It has been green. It is a very ecologically  
11 sensitive area as has been defined by our ecologist and  
12 really is very distinctive in its look and the ecosystem  
13 you can see there. The closed area differently is a very  
14 dry arroyo in the sense that it's very steep. We have  
15 notice.

16 In fact, we have some pictures that I will show  
17 next time of one of our samplers trying to sample this. In  
18 the arroyo was a flash flood that occurred after a  
19 rainstorm and literally there was a tidal wave of four feet  
20 of water rushing down that they had to jump out of on top  
21 of drums to get out of way on.

22 So we basically have seen water out of the closed  
23 OBOD arroyo, but not any water evident in the bottom  
24 itself. It's a very steep channel. It appears not to have  
25 any surface waters. We really haven't seen any surface



1 water flow so that's been one of our problems.

2 It's certainly been one of our objectives in all  
3 of our sample efforts because you're kind of dependent on  
4 rainstorms or events out here to really generate we have  
5 only had one or two sampling events for surface water.

6 Last summer we put in a series of wells to  
7 attempt to define the shallow groundwater conditions within  
8 both the current OBOD and closed OBOD. And I think the  
9 easiest way to summarize it is -- once again I'm not  
10 geologist. We all came back very confused. Groundwater  
11 was determined at different depth at different location.  
12 One would be a high one. One would be water at a shallow  
13 depth.

14 So because of the catastrophe that occurred within  
15 that area it's a very confusing geologic system. So what  
16 we propose to do now is really step back and utilize  
17 several techniques that are available to us to give us some  
18 idea.

19 For example, you can look at this just as how you  
20 look at topographic maps or aerial photos you might see.  
21 We're going to use those same kind of messed, satellite  
22 images where some of the hydrologic areas are within that.

23 I happen to know of a person who has a 99 percent  
24 factor of looking at topo maps and it is kind of a science  
25 along with the divining rod, but there is a lot of



1 information you can get out of satellite imagery and Army  
2 photographs.

3 So what we're going to do is try to use the where  
4 the water is in both areas. So secondly we're going to be  
5 doing basically a geophysics technique to go through the  
6 area to try to identify; in other words, when that area was  
7 created there was a massive uplifting of all of the rocks  
8 within the OBOD area. What we're going to try to do is do  
9 some kind of evaluation of the surface area to try to give  
10 us where we could put a well in that area and hopefully  
11 find groundwater and then sample that groundwater. These  
12 wells will also be looked at in the future.

13 I felt the bottom line is we want to implement  
14 wells that can also be used for the future restoration of  
15 that area as we go into the postclosure care period.

16 So we will be putting in a number of wells based  
17 on the seismic professional and just the industry  
18 information we get from our program this next summer.  
19 Those activities also will be started the next August along  
20 with the submittal of work programs to the Fort Worth  
21 district.

22 Any questions I can answer for anyone?

23 Those activities then once we get the findings of  
24 those activities back will then be resolved into a second  
25 set of work plans as part of a status for ERICA closure





1 plan and then also a permit and follow with wells installed  
2 in both areas to better define the groundwater conditions  
3 based on the findings of this past summer.

4 If there are no questions, thank you very much.

5 MR. FISHER: Thank you, Steve. I appreciate  
6 that. That basically concludes our presentations this  
7 evening.

8 If there are no further questions -- it's getting  
9 hot in here, isn't it? But anyway I appreciate you're  
10 being here. I would like to remind you again that our next  
11 RAB meeting is temporarily set up for the 10th of  
12 September. I'm not sure whether we'll be here probably  
13 back over there.

14 Also if you have any idea as to how we might be  
15 able to improve on the attendance, I'd sure be glad to  
16 accept any suggestions or anything you might have to try to  
17 get people here, more people involved. If you want to  
18 invite more people from your organizations, that would  
19 help. People have been working on their use plan maybe  
20 that would help.

21 MS. ANDERSON: Maybe your whole technical  
22 committee could come.

23 MR. NEZ: Right.

24 MR. FISHER: That would be good if we could  
25 get them here. If you have any idea or anything that you



1 would like to talk to me about or leave with Judy at the  
2 back table, we'd sure appreciate it.

3 If there isn't anything else, thank you very much  
4 for coming. And I appreciate your questions. We will look  
5 into them and try to get something going on the reuse see  
6 what we can do.

7 MR. KELLY: One last final question.  
8 Actually request, too. Could we have that map?

9 MS. AJEMIAN: It's your choice.

10 MR. FISHER: I don't have any problem.

11 MR. AGY: Reviewing this, we put this  
12 together two or three weeks ago. But I think that you  
13 could have that.

14 MR. FISHER: I don't have any problem with  
15 that.

16 (Hearing recessed at 9:50)

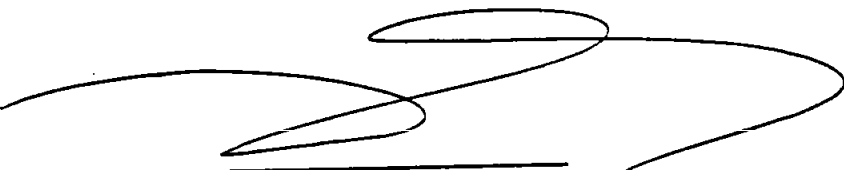
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