

**Galena Technical Project Team  
TRIAD/TPT Meeting  
Galena AFB- Administrative Conference Room  
May 5-7, 2008**

**TPT Members in Attendance**

March Runner	Louden Tribe
Todd Fickel	611 <sup>th</sup> Environmental, Air Force
Colin Craven	Dept. of Environmental Conservation (DEC)
Walt Wilcox	City of Galena (absent)
Colette Foster	Dept. of Transportation (DOT) (via telecon)
Sam Myers	DOT
Phil Koontz	Louden Tribe
JoAnn Grady	Grady and Associates

**Support Personnel**

Kay Grosinske	AFCEE (2 <sup>nd</sup> half of first day through adjournment)
Collen Brownlow	Earthtech (2 <sup>nd</sup> day through adjournment)
Patrick Haas	P. Haas and Associates

*The attached matrices include the decisions and recommendations on Galena sites made by the TPT during the TPT/TRIAD meeting held in Galena May 5-7. The document is a work in progress, and will continue to be used routinely during the TPT meetings and all BRAC teleconferences. The matrices outline the specific decisions regarding sampling responsibility, timing, resolution, and prioritization of work being conducted at all Galena sites, as well as any additional decisions being made during base closure. It is a blueprint for all activity occurring at Galena during closure and through the signing of the Record of Decision (RODs) on the Galena sites.*

**Draft Summary Comments**

**TRIAD Meeting with the TPT**

The TPT convened its joint TRIAD/TPT meeting in Galena at 9:30 AM May 5. Ms. Grady informed the TPT that Mr. Walt Wilcox had let her know he would not be attending the meeting due to an appointment conflict.

Todd Fickel began the meeting stating the overall objective of the TRIAD process. According to the AF, TRIAD is an innovative approach to decision-making for hazardous waste site characterization and remediation. The TRIAD approach proactively uses new characterization and “real-time” treatment tools to develop work strategies based on consultation and input from stakeholders involved at a specific site.

Mr. Fickel recommended that while a good number of sites at Galena might involve lengthy consultation, a few sites could simply be reviewed and agreed upon for closure early on during the team’s deliberations. Many of the sites were considered ‘orphan sites’ and not contained

within the newly formed western or eastern units. The western and eastern units were created by the AF in an effort to consolidate sites.

The team agreed to review many of the ‘easier’ sites which are designated for closure early in the meeting and prior to the arrival of Ms. Kay Grosinske. Ms. Grosinske will serve as the AF’s BRAC representative and director of closure activities after the 611<sup>th</sup> departs the base September 30, 2008. She flew to Galena to attend the TPT.

While the outcome of the work of the TPT is listed specifically on the attached matrices, summary discussions regarding those decisions are listed below.

### **LUCs**

A lengthy discussion took place regarding LUCs proposed to be placed at Galena sites. Mr. Fickel suggested, for the sake of expeditious discussions during our meeting, that the TPT restrict their discussions and decisions to the technical aspects of the LUCs. He stated the legal discussion regarding implementation and enforcement of the LUCs were taking place outside the TPT among the attorneys for each agency/entity involved. He stated the TPT’s technical decisions and reasoning of the LUCs would be placed in the record of decision ( ROD), and at the signing of the RODs, it would be up to the land owner to agree or disagree to enforce to implement the LUCs. The team also agreed that the time had come to actively involve the attorney’s to determine the willingness and ability for each party to accept the ICs prior to the signing of the ROD.

It was agreed that the TPT would only review the technical merits of recommended LUCs and not the legality of LUCs.

### **Land Use Atlas**

Todd Fickel stated that the Air Force will be developing a ‘land use atlas’ which will be given to the City of Galena. The atlas will discuss, and show by way of geographic information system (GIS) mapping, any and all activities and work at sites which were investigated for contamination, but are not listed on the contaminated sites list, and do not have LUCs placed on them.

### **Areas of Concern for the DOT**

Colette Foster raised questions regarding areas of concern not listed or addressed in the Air Force summary of contaminated sites, or in the baseline survey. She specifically mentioned a raised bermed area on block 9, lots 4 to 6. DEC’s Craven suggested a field trip to look at the sites. After looking at the site, Mr. Fickel stated the AF would most likely not address the area. DOT stated that they do not agree that the AF should not take action on sites that the DOT, as the land owner, feel need attention.

No history was known by TPT members regarding activity at that site. Phil Koontz stated that he would ask Marvin Thurmond or others if they knew what activities took place that resulted in the bermed area.

A lengthy discussion took place regarding the ability of the AF to conduct sampling on the DOT owned airport runway or tarmac. Ms. Grosinske stated that the AF would need to acquire permits for sampling and might have to investigate the area under the tarmac because sufficient

data was not available on the South POL Tank Farm plume without more sampling wells to provide data.

To possibly avoid the need to dig into the tarmac, the team decided that sampling wells initially could be placed in both the grassy area south of the GAVTC and also the farthest south grassy area closer to the river's edge. Should those samples come back with detection limits above the MCLs, the AF could then regroup, and develop a presentation to the DOT asking for permission to penetrate the tarmac in order to better determine the source and extent of the POL plume.

Ms. Grosinske also stated that a permit might be required to remove an underground storage tank at the combat alert cell. She stated that they would be contacting the DOT once the tank was located. Ms. Foster stated that she would be gone from May 20<sup>th</sup> to June 5<sup>th</sup> and suggested that any permit applications needed soon should be submitted prior to her departure.

DOT's Sam Meyers inquired regarding the path to closure of the former incinerator site, building 1770. Mr. Haas stated that the land had already been regarded after the building was demolished and the most that the AF could provide would be a visual investigation in the area to check for any ash which could be sampled.

### **BRAC Development TPT/BCT**

Ms. Grosinske inquired regarding the history and mandate of the TPT and how it differed from a base closure team (BCT.)

Ms. Grady explained that the TPT's was initiated as a result of an informal dispute years earlier instead of listing the base on the National Priorities List (as a Superfund Site) It was agreed by the parties involved at the time, that the TPT would be formed in lieu of a formal listing, and have direct involvement, input and oversight into the remediation plans being developed and implemented at Galena. Its mandate was also to communicate those plans and decisions directly to the community members in Galena, specifically the Louden Tribe, school and city officials, and the general public. It was agreed as part of the dispute resolution that the TPT would stay in place in Galena until decision documents on the IRP/Compliance sites were signed.

When the base was chosen to be closed under BRAC, Grady explained a difficulty developed when the legal authority, usually present at BCT meetings to discuss land use issues, were not in attendance to oversee the remediation decisions being prepared by the TPT, specifically regarding LUCs. While the team has tried for almost two years to bring the necessary parties together to resolve the issues, it has only happened on occasion. To further complicate matters, a formal local reuse authority is not present in Galena as the State of Alaska owns the land.

Ms. Grosinske mentioned that she thought that the TPT should turn into the BCT. She also stated she would personally be responsible for getting AF counsel to attend the meetings. The status of the TPT/BCT, or a hybrid thereof, remained open for further discussions.

### **UST/AST Discussion**

During review of the USTs and ASTs listed in Galena, it was noted that the administrative paperwork for closure of the tanks was not complete in either dataset for the State or the AF. Some confusion exists regarding which tanks have been removed and which have documentation regarding their removal.

Mr. Craven stated that another division of the DEC oversees USTs and ASTs and the AF should contact the Industry Preparedness Program to review the data base for tank removal. DOT's Collette Foster commented that any removal of tanks on the airport lands would need a permit. She suggested that the AF contact her immediately for any permits that might be needed for summer's work. The AF agreed to compile an inventory and cross reference the Galena tank list with ADEC's tank database, the ADEC contaminated sites database, and the AF's EBS database.

### **Communication Plan**

Grady asked if there was a communication plan that would be put in place regarding the "real time" work that will be taking place this summer in Galena. The TRIAD process allows the flexibility of a work plan to occur, and communicating decisions and or changes to the work planned would be wise to communicate to TPT members as well as to all parties involved. Ms. Grosinske suggested that bi-weekly telephone calls to all team members should be implemented which would provide information on the field work to anyone who is interested. The team also agreed that the construction of a collaborative web site could answer questions regarding remediation work.

### **Pipelines**

A discussion occurred regarding both decommissioned and active pipelines. DOT requested of the AF a survey of all active and decommissioned pipelines on the Galena base in addition to the lines and valve areas being sampled. Ms. Foster also requested the current information on when the lines were last tested as well as the results of those tests. Mr. Fickel stated that he would check and report to DOT on the last pressurization tests conducted on the pipelines and also agreed to survey and sample the lines and provide the information to the DOT.

### **EPA**

Mr. Craven brought to the attention of the TPT a letter that he had received from the EPA inquiring about the progress of remediation at the base. He stated he would wait until the end of the upcoming field season to respond to their questions.

### **The Next TPT/BCT Meeting**

The next in-person meeting of the TPT/BCT will be held in Galena July 16 and 17. Teleconferences will now be held every other Wednesday morning at 10AM to discuss remediation and closure work taking place on the base. Earthtech will send out call in numbers to the team prior to each meeting.