

**Galena Technical Project Team
Meeting # 26
April 18, 2007**

Anchorage Office of the Department of Environmental Conservation

TPT Members

March Runner	Louden Tribe
Marvin Yoder	Galena Economic Development Committee
Harry White	Galena Schools
Dave Hertzog	Air Force (AF)
Todd Fickel	Air Force
Colin Craven	Dept. of Environmental Conservation (DEC)
Darren Mulkey	Dept. of Transportation (DOT)
Phil Koontz (partial attendance)	Louden Tribe
JoAnn Grady	Grady and Associates

Guests

Alex Tatum	Yukanna
------------	---------

Summary Comments

Galena BRAC update/ Review of the GEDC draft Land Reuse Plan

Marvin Yoder began the meeting with an overview of the current work being undertaken by the Galena Economic Development Committee to secure the transfer of both buildings and land from the State of Alaska and the Air Force. He reported that progress is being made and the Alaska Department of Transportation has agreed to transfer both the Ptarmigan Dormitory and the Dining Hall to the City on June 1, 2007.

He stated that the draft copy of the Reuse Plan had been submitted to the Office of Economic Adjustment on April 1st, only to be returned a week later from OEA stating the reuse plan needed to be expanded and include further information regarding costs, along with a more comprehensive economic feasibility study. Should the final copy of the plan include the needed economic criteria expected by the OEA, it can trigger monies designated to keep buildings at BRAC sites running until a full transfer can take place. Mr. Yoder explained that the difficulty for Galena is the quick timeline for closure of the base which is slated for September 30, 2008. He feels the expanded Reuse Plan will activate the needed interim subsidized funds which in turn will assist the GEDC in “buying time” to line up the needed reuse entities.

Mr. Yoder stated that the idea for using the present Galena campus as a Military Academy was being considered again, which may prove to be an important anchor tenant at the site.

Ms. Grady inquired about the closure date of 2008, stating that initially it was discussed to have the base close in 2011. Mr. Hertzog stated that per the BRAC Commission, all actions on all bases designated to be BRAC’d during this round would need to be completed by 2011. In addition, he stated the Pentagon thought closures at bases that did not have active missions could be performed more quickly. As Galena has no active mission, the AF slated it for early closure in

2008. The difficulty, as discussed by the TPT, is that the AF closure timeline hurries the development of a viable economic reuse plan, especially in a remote location such as Galena.

A discussion ensued regarding the AF's use of land use controls (LUCs) as the base closes. Mr. Yoder stated the City of Galena will need to have a comprehensive understanding of the LUCs that will be left so they can plan costs to implement and enforce the LUCs. Mr. Craven stated the discussion on LUCs will need to take place among the environmental, real estate and legal representatives from the State and the Air Force to discuss the details of LUCs. Mr. Hertzog felt the representatives would need to see and understand a viable reuse plan in order for the LUC discussion to be pertinent. If the reuse plan is approved, then LUC discussions will continue and details will be worked out.

Ms. Grady asked if the Alaska legislative delegation in Washington DC has been informed of the unique situation occurring at the Galena BRAC site. Mr. Yoder stated the delegation had been apprised last October, and another trip to brief the delegation is planned for middle May. He stated the Final Draft Reuse Plan is due out on the 15th of May. After that time, the GEDC would be more informed regarding the possibility of keeping the base buildings "warm" while continuing to locate viable reuse tenants.

FONSI

Mr. Hertzog stated the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the disposal of Air Force property has been signed which begins the process to allow AF to transfer building and facilities. He explained it is a parent document needed for transferring any facility on any base. He stated that generally it takes up to a year to write and approve a FONSI, but the AF was successful in accelerating the document in an effort to support transfer.

Galena Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) and Tech Memo Update

Mr. Hertzog stated that the RI/FS will be finalized April 30th. The document will be sent to all affected stakeholders. He thanked the TPT for the 18 months of work on the document and considered it a successful collaboration.

He added the technical memo that will address the field work from August 06 will be coming out for review in May. The technical memo will discuss the new development found from the field work data. Recommendations will be included in the memo and they will be reviewed and discussed at the next TPT meeting.

Summer Field Season and Compliance Site Work Review

Mr. Hertzog stated the work plan for the upcoming season will also be forthcoming in May. He stated the first mobilization of workers will take place in June, with a second possibly in August or early September. The work will address the 40 plus compliance sites in Galena.

Mr. Hertzog also stated that work on Kalakaket Creek is proposed to begin in June. CH2MHill has been given the work to perform a site investigation.

He also updated the team on the new remediation contract awarded to Yukanna, Oasis and BNCI to continue monitoring and maintenance on all remediation systems currently operating in Galena. The contract will continue through March/April of 2008.

Team Review and Approval of NFRAP Proposed Plan

The TPT reviewed proposed plans for three No Further Remediation Action Planned NFRAP sites. The sites are:

- **Control Tower Drum Storage (SS002)**
- **POL Fuel Line Leak (ST003)**
- **Road Oiling (SS09)**

Mr. Craven stated the DEC will have a few comments to make before the document is released as a joint AF/DEC effort. Although he stated, they are simply comments to clarify information. He stated the DEC is ready to close these sites. The TPT had no further comments on any of the sites.

The Proposed Plan will go out to public comment and a 30 day review period. A public meeting will be planned for mid-June on the document. March Runner stated that fish camps might keep many community members from attending the public meeting to discuss the document. She offered to assist informing the community of the document review period at the Loudon council meeting on the 28th of April. She will let members know the documents will be out for review prior to the departure for fish camp. Mr. Hertzog thanked her for her assistance.

Comprehensive Site Investigation Report for Galena Munition Sites

Colin Craven presented a review of the Comprehensive Site Investigation Report for Galena munitions sites to the TPT. He reviewed the history of the Military Munitions Response Program and the current report produced by Weston Solutions.

The report stated that two areas in Galena, and two more in Campion were determined, through personal interviews of community members and through archival data, to need investigation. In Galena, one area west of Million Gallon Hill, near the old landfill site, was purported to contain munitions based on reports from community members, and another area, north of the runway also showed signs of an open burn and open detonation (OB/OD) site. In Campion, one area was suspected to be a former bazooka range, and the other, an additional open burn, open detonation site. Mr. Craven stated that all four areas will be brought forward for additional investigation and clean up.

Thanks, Good bye, and Good Luck!

The TPT concluded it's meeting with an outpouring of heartfelt thanks and appreciation to AF Project Manager Dave Hertzog who will be leaving the team and entering into blissful retirement on May 2. His dedication and tireless effort to the remediation of the Galena Base will be remembered and appreciated by the community of Galena, and by the TPT, for years to come. Thank you Dave from each member of the TPT, past and present! It's truly been a pleasure to work with you!

Next TPT meeting

The TPT will meet in Fairbanks on May 21, 2007. Time and place will be determined and announced in the meeting agenda which will be forthcoming May 7th.

