

# What is Community Involvement and why do it?

- Two-way communication between government decision makers and community
- Participation in the cleanup process - from planning through execution
- Community involvement is required by law

# Benefits of Community Participation

- Facility and Agencies

Increased credibility

Improved community acceptance and support

More responsive cleanups



- Community

Increased understanding of cleanup issues and progress

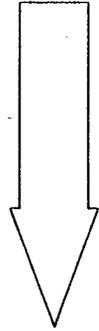
Greater opportunities to participate in the process and impact decisions

More responsive cleanups

# Identified Approaches to Community Involvement

- Identify affected stakeholders and recognize their role in the cleanup process
- Open additional communication channels with representatives of the community
- Encourage community involvement throughout the cleanup process
- Demonstrate community input is valuable and impacts decision making
- Make draft reports available simultaneously to the community and regulatory agencies
- Establish Restoration Advisory Boards (RAB) at facilities where there is sufficient, sustained interest

# Evolution

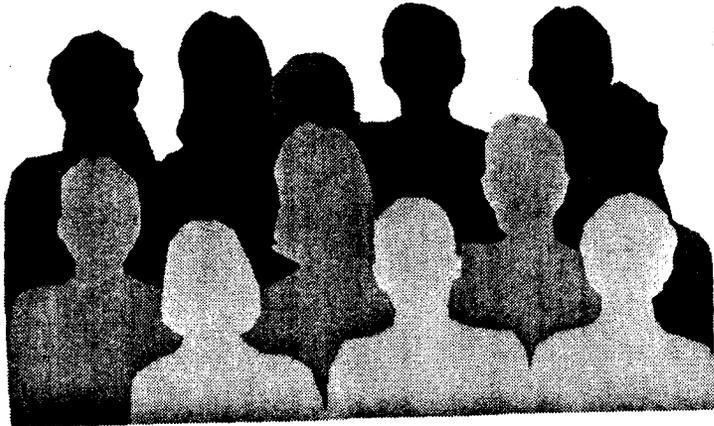


- Technical Review Committee (DOD bases)
- TRC/RAB Transition
- Restoration Advisory Board

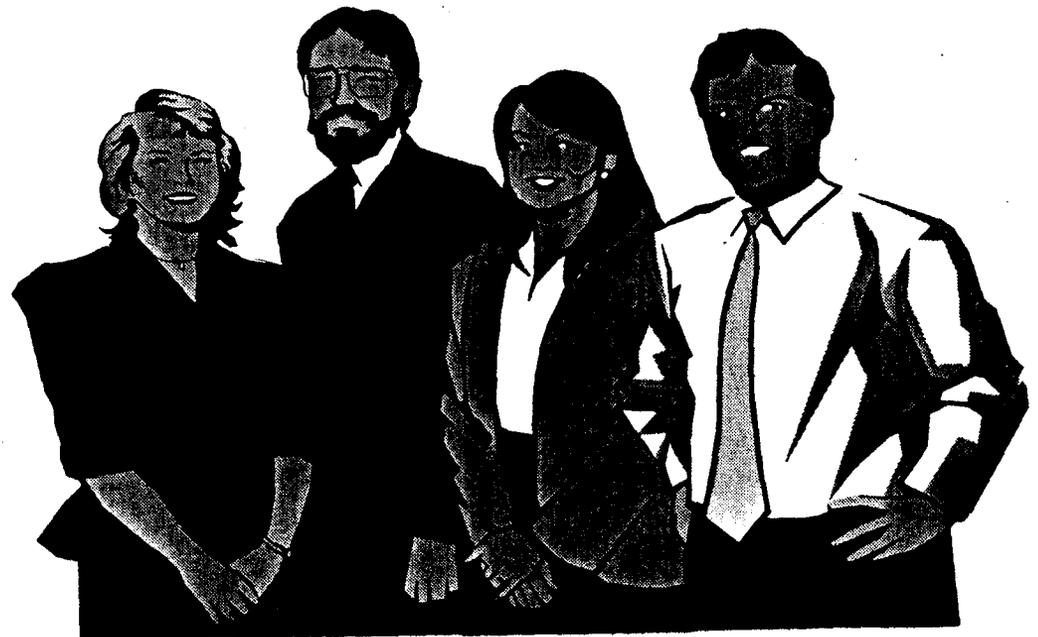
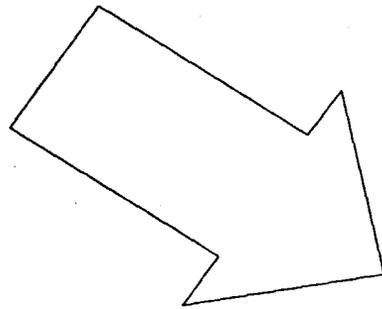
## *Adjustments to TRC*

- Widen community representation
- Appoint co-chairs
- Develop operating procedures document
- Limited to cleanup issues

# Evolution of Public Involvement



Technical Review Committee



Restoration Advisory Board

# RAB: A New Way of Business

## TRC

## RAB

Membership Composition:	3 Community Representatives	15-20 Community and Government
Member Selection:	Appointed by local government and the union	Community Nominates and Selects
Chairmanship:	Facility Manager	Community and Facility Co-chair
Approach:	DOD Controlled	Spirit of Cooperation
Communication:	2-way Information	2-way Open Dialogue

# What is a RAB?

- Members provide individual advice to government and decision makers
- Is NOT consensus seeking body
- Is NOT a decision-making body
- Is made up of representatives from community and government agencies

# Rationale for a RAB?

- Encourages dialogue among stakeholders
- Build on TRC model
- Fosters partnership between the community and government agencies
  - Shared chairmanship
  - Meetings open to the public

# Purpose of the RAB?

- Act as a forum for the discussion and exchange of information regarding cleanup between the facility, regulatory agencies and the community
- Provide an opportunity for stakeholders to participate in the cleanup process and provide input to decision makers
- Complement other community involvement activities conducted by the facility

# Responsibilities of the RAB?

- Provide advice to the facility and federal/state regulatory agencies
- Consider important issues related to cleanup, such as scope of studies, cleanup levels, waste management, and remedial action alternatives
- Review and evaluate documents
- Identify proposed project requirements
- Recommend priorities among sites or projects
- Conduct regular meetings, open to the public, at convenient times and locations

# Selecting Community Members?

*The Commanding Officer (DOD) will ensure that the membership of the RAB mirrors the diverse interests within the community*

- Environmental Community Relations Steering Committee will make the recommendations to the facility's top management for RAB members
- The selection process must be unbiased and open
- The selection process must be conducted in cooperation with regulatory agencies and affected community members

# Selecting RAB Co-Chairs

*Co-chairs will serve in equal partnership*

- The facility co-chair will be selected by the facility's top management (must be empowered with the authority to implement responsibilities of the RAB)
- The community co-chair will be selected by the community members of the RAB

# Who is the Community?

- Local residents
- Facility employees/residents
- Technical Assist Grant recipients
- Current Technical Review Committee Members
- Local government
- Business community
- School district members
- Reuse committees (where applicable)
- Local environmental groups/activists
- Civic/public interest organizations
- Religious community
- Local regulatory agencies
- Homowner associations
- Medical community
- Reflective of ethnic diversity

# Selection Process for Community Members

## STEP ONE

Identify Stakeholders  
Interests

Who: Management  
(in consultation  
with EPA, State  
and Public  
Representatives)

- Characterize Issues
- Establish procedures to periodically review interests

## STEP TWO

Organize a  
Selection Panel

Who: Management  
(in consultation  
with EPA, State  
and Public  
Representatives)

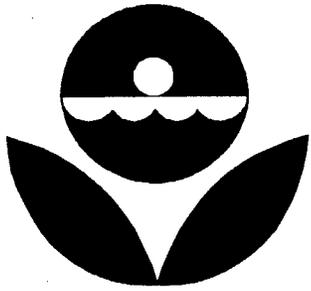
- Panelists should reflect a cross section of stakeholder interests

## STEP THREE

Nominate  
RAB Members

Who: Management  
(in consultation  
with EPA, State  
and Public  
Representatives)

- Develop solicitation methodology/selection criteria
- Solicit nominations
- Evaluate candidates
- Recommend candidates



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