

RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARDS

Restoration Advisory Boards, commonly called “RABs,” are established in communities located near Navy and Marine Corps environmental cleanup sites.

RABs are local boards designed to provide a forum for effective two-way communication between the community and the Navy/Marine Corps about work and plans at nearby cleanup sites.



When are RABs formed?

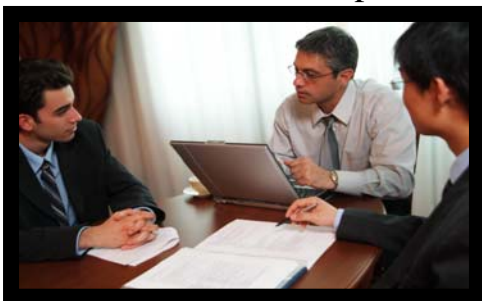
If there is “sufficient and sustained” community interest and:

- Closure of the installation involves transfer of property to the community;
- Fifty (50) or more citizens petition the installation to form a RAB;
- Local, state, federal, or tribal governments request the formation of a RAB; or
- The installation determines the need for a RAB.



What do RAB members do?

Provide advice to the installation, regulators, and other government agencies on environmental clean-up activities and community involvement by:



- Reviewing and commenting on various technical documents and related site information;
- Attending RAB meetings and discussing and exchanging information regarding site cleanup;
- Serving as a liaison with the community and providing them with information discussed at the RAB meetings

By definition, a RAB may only address issues associated with environmental restoration activities. Environmental groups or advisory boards that address issues other than environmental restoration activities are not considered RABs.

RAB STRUCTURE

All RABs have official members, but the meetings are open to the general public and are held at convenient times and locations to encourage participation.

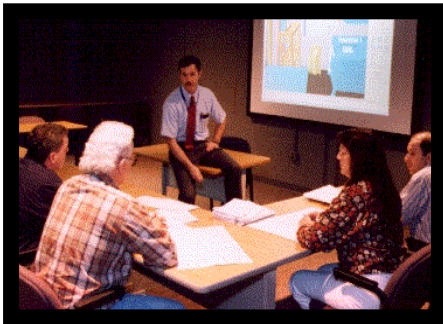
RAB Members

RAB membership should be balanced and reflect diverse interests of communities. Members include:

- Local citizens
- Navy/Marine Corps representatives
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency representatives
- State environmental regulatory agencies representatives
- Local government representatives



RAB Membership



- Membership is voluntary
- Members receive no compensation
- Members all have equal status, except the two co-chairs

Co-Chairs

Each Restoration Advisory Board is chaired by two people, a Navy/Marine Corps representative and a community representative.

- The Navy/Marine Corps representative is selected by the installation's Commanding Officer.
- The community representative is selected by the community members.
- The co-chairs will serve as equal partners.

RAB OPERATING PROCEDURES

The DoD recently published a regulation addressing RABs, known as the **RAB Rule**

(71 Federal Register 27610, May 12, 2006)

RAB rule provides general guidance on:

- Activities that can be performed by a RAB
- Establishing a RAB
- RAB operating procedures
- Responsibilities of RAB members
- Steps to adjourn a RAB
- Steps to dissolve a RAB



Each RAB should establish and document their own site-specific operating procedures in an official RAB charter.

RAB charters should include specifics on:

- RAB goals and objectives
- Meeting frequency, location, and advertisement
- Attendance requirements
- Rules of order
- The size of the RAB, periods of membership and length of service

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
MARINE CORPS BASE HAWAII (MCBH) IS
HOSTING OPEN HOUSE MEETINGS TO DISCUSS
FORMING A RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD**

A Restoration Advisory Board (commonly called a RAB) is a forum for the discussion and exchange of environmental cleanup information between the Department of Defense (DoD), state and federal regulatory agencies and the local community. The public is invited to attend a meeting to learn more about RABs and the environmental cleanup efforts underway at MCBH Kaneohe Bay and Waikane Valley and to provide feedback on forming a RAB for these sites. MCBH will form a RAB if there is sufficient community interest and commitment to participate.

RAB charters should include procedures for:

- Selecting and replacing co-chairs and RAB members
 - Participation of the general public
 - Reviewing and responding to public comments
 - Keeping the public informed regarding RAB actions
- Developing agendas for future meetings and issues to be addressed
 - Resolving disputes