

Air Force Civil Engineer Center



Welcome
Fairchild Air Force Base
Restoration Advisory
Board Meeting

7 April 2026
4:00 pm PDT

Your Success is Our Mission!



RAB Mission Statement



The purpose of the Restoration Advisory Board is to promote community awareness and obtain constructive community review and comment on environmental restoration actions in the overall cleanup of Fairchild Air Force Base



Meeting Agenda



Item	Time	Topic	Leader	Documents
1	4:00pm	Welcome and Introductions	Col. LaMore	
		i. Pledge of Allegiance ii. RAB Mission Statement	RAB Facilitator- Tim Sueltenfuss	
2	4:05pm	General RAB Business	RAB Facilitator- Tim Sueltenfuss	
		i. RAB Agenda Overview ii. Finalize June RAB Meeting Minutes iii. Member Recognition Awards iv. SOP Amendments		RAB Code of Conduct, Member Expectations
3	4:35pm	EPA & Ecology Agency Updates	EPA/Ecology	
4	4:55pm	5 Minute Break		
5	5:00pm	Air Force Agency Updates	Air Force	PFAS & AFFF Timeline
6	5:45pm	Public Comment Period	RAB Facilitator- Tim Sueltenfuss	
7	6:00pm	Meeting Adjourn		



Recognition Awards



- Fairchild Air Force Base would like to recognize four individuals on the RAB who, through decades of commitment, have established themselves as distinguished and indispensable members
- Between them, there is nearly a century of combined service to the FAFB RAB. We would like to take a moment to show appreciation to each of them for all they have brought to the RAB over the years:
 - Mr. Charles “Chuck” Gruenenfelder, RAB member since 1995, and founding member on the RAB Charter
 - Dr. Hugh Lefcort, RAB member since 1996
 - Mr. Jon Welge, RAB member since 2003, and current community co-chair
 - Mr. Doug Greenlund, RAB member since 2009



SOP Amendments



- **#1: Defining quorum in meetings and email votes**
 - In meetings: More than half of voting RAB members/alternates
 - Via email: All RAB voting members must vote to constitute quorum
- **#2: Defining *diverse* when it comes to RAB membership**
 - The RAB is structured to include a diverse member population to represent various relevant interests and hear different perspectives
 - To ensure the board fairly represents the community, no organization may have more than one representative on the Board, and the number of Community at-Large members will be capped at three
- **#3: Revocation of membership for disseminating misleading or incorrect information**
 - RAB members have a responsibility to not mislead the public
 - Members knowingly misleading the public could be removed
 - Examples included in the proposed amendment



SOP Amendment #1



“For RAB business conducted at an official RAB meeting, passing a motion will require a simple majority, which will require more than half of all votes cast unless the vote is for community member removal or reinstatement, which will require a two-thirds supermajority as established in the RAB SOP.

For RAB business conducted at an official RAB meeting, quorum is defined as the number of voting members required to be present for business to be conducted at the meeting. At official RAB meetings, the quorum will be set at more than half of the total number of voting RAB members. If a voting RAB member misses a meeting but designates an alternate representative, that alternate will have full voting rights at the official RAB meeting. However, no RAB member can designate as an alternative representative a community member who has been removed at any time from the RAB. For RAB voting by email, the quorum will be the number of all RAB voting members. Therefore, all vote-by-email motions will require over half of RAB voting members to vote in favor, or more than two-thirds if a two-thirds supermajority is required.”



SOP Amendment #2



“For purposes of the RAB, diverse will be defined as a board with multiple different, relevant perspectives and interests with *balanced representation*.

To maintain balanced representation of the community, the RAB will not have redundant members. Therefore, no organization may have more than one representative on the RAB, and the maximum number of Community At-Large members will be three.”



SOP Amendment #3



“Members of the RAB have a responsibility to strive for accuracy when sharing information and interacting with the greater community.

Any member knowingly creating and/or disseminating misleading or incorrect information could be subject to removal from the RAB. This includes but is not limited to sharing altered Air Force resources without permission, promulgating incorrect, unsubstantiated, or misleading claims, and misrepresenting the nature of an entity’s relationship with the Air Force. If a member is suspected to have knowingly done any of the above, their removal will be initiated according to the process established in the SOP.”

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Agency Updates

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Fairchild AFB PFAS Public Update

7 April 2026

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Stormwater Gate Study



- **The Stormwater Gate Project at Fairchild AFB has been cancelled**
 - **South Dakota School of Mines was unable to complete the scope of work**
- **Completed a Critical Process Analysis (CPA) to address PFAS-impacted surface water at No Name Ditch (NND)**
- **CPA will recommend/scope an action or study to identify the most effective response**
 - **Team of experts reviewed data from the Remedial Investigation, NND and FT004 Pilot Study and recommended further investigation of the area**
- **Once additional data is collected, CPA team will evaluate and recommend potential interim response actions necessary to treat PFAS migration off-base**



FT004 Pilot Study and Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA)



- **FT004 Data Gap Investigation Report has been finalized**
- **Contract Mod completed to**
 - **Perform additional pre-treatment bench-scale testing**
 - **Provide a Pilot Study Design**
- **Non-time Critical Removal Action (NTCRA) Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA), construction, and system operation will be completed under a future contract**



Revamping City of Airway Heights EE/CA



- In 2021, an EE/CA was conducted and the alternatives identified were:
 1. Do nothing (required to be included by statute)
 2. **GAC wellhead treatment**
 3. Ion resin wellhead treatment
 4. Reverse osmosis wellhead treatment
 5. New high-capacity production well outside PFAS impacted area
 6. Continued use of Spokane water supply
- CAWH requested postponement while they obtain water rights
- AF agreed to postponement; however, due to delays with the CAWH obtaining water rights, the AF has decided to move forward
- DAF currently revamping the Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) for a permanent solution for City of Airway Heights (CAWH) with updated costs



Private Wells Mitigation and Sampling



- To date, Fairchild AFB has sampled 420 drinking water wells, installed 92 POETS, 3 homes connected to municipal water, and 7 homes pending POETS installation
- In April 2024, EPA issued final drinking water standards (MCLs) for select PFAS chemicals under Safe Drinking Water Act
 - Applicable to Public Water Systems only
 - EPA is currently working on updated regulations, with compliance extended to April 2031
- In Sep 2024, Dept of War (DoW) issued a Policy Memorandum describing DoW's plans to incorporate PFAS mitigation in CERCLA cleanup program
 - Prioritize response actions in private drinking water wells with the highest levels of PFAS from DoW activities, while the Remedial Investigation continues
 - Prioritize interim actions at wells at or above 3X MCLs (e.g., 12 ppt for PFOA or PFOS)
 - Focus on sustainable/enduring solutions (municipal Connections, filtration systems)



Private Wells Mitigation and Sampling



- In Fall of 2024 (early FY2025), DAF immediately began efforts to realign funds for PFAS drinking water mitigation that were previously budgeted for other cleanup efforts
 - Developed an aggressive contract execution strategy using FY25 funds
 - National-level effort, 66 installations broken into 3 regional mitigation contracts (East, Central, and West regions)
- In early 2025, contracting efforts began in earnest with the goal to award contracts by Sep 2025 (before funds expired end of FY2025)
 - However, the magnitude and complexity of the work resulted in longer than anticipated timeframe to review proposals and award contracts
- Contracting effort continues using FY2026 funds



Private Wells Mitigation and Sampling



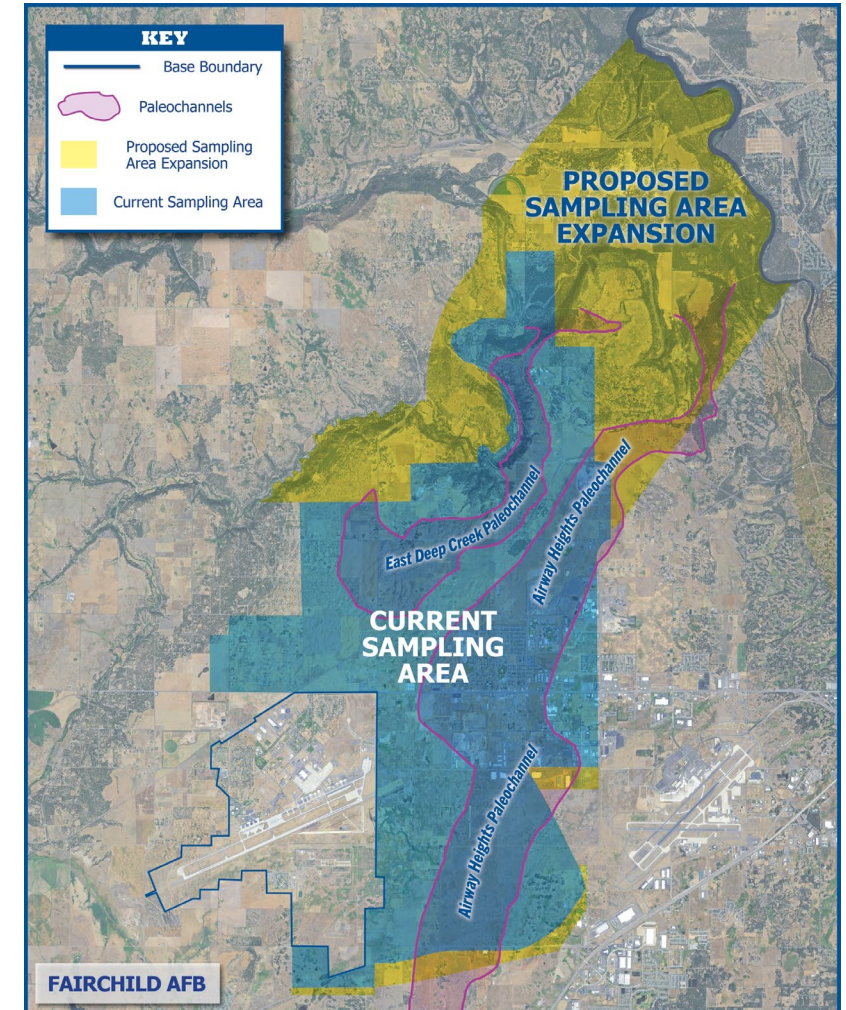
- **Western Regional Mitigation Contract (including Fairchild AFB) estimated award by Aug 2026**
 - **First priority- to install Point-of-Use Treatment Systems (POUTS) for wells that are known to exceed 3 times MCLs as an Emergency Removal Action (within the first ~6 months of contract award); conduct cost benefit / technical analysis for enduring solution**
 - **Next step- Resampling of wells historically sampled and reported below the MCL tentatively planned to start Summer of 2027**
 - **Then step-out sampling tentatively planned to start Summer of 2028**
- **Separate Regional contracts for Operations & Maintenance (O&M) of long-term response actions (estimated September 2026)**
 - **O&M of existing and new filtration systems**



Proposed Sampling Area Expansion



- The area in yellow is the proposed sampling area expansion
- Paleochannels are outlined in pink
- The Air Force will expand the sampling area if/when new data indicates it is necessary





POUTS Installations

- POUTS installations prioritized for impacted wells over 3x the EPA MCLs
- The POUTS will be an ion exchange resin filtration system for one sink in the home, typically in the kitchen
- Each POUTS will be custom-built
 - Before install, a site visit will be conducted to design the system specifically for the home
- The AF will provide 1 year of O&M under the current contract then transfer to a new regional O&M contract

POINT-OF-USE TREATMENT SYSTEMS

POUTS, or Point-of-Use Treatment Systems, are compact water filters installed at a sink or tap where water is commonly used, such as in a kitchen or bathroom. It's designed to remove substances like PFAS from water used for drinking or cooking.

How Does It Work?

- Installed under the sink or attached to a faucet.
- Water passes through filters such as granular activated carbon that reduce PFAS and similar substances.
- Filtered water is dispensed from a separate tap, while untreated water remains available for other uses like washing or cleaning.

Important to Know:

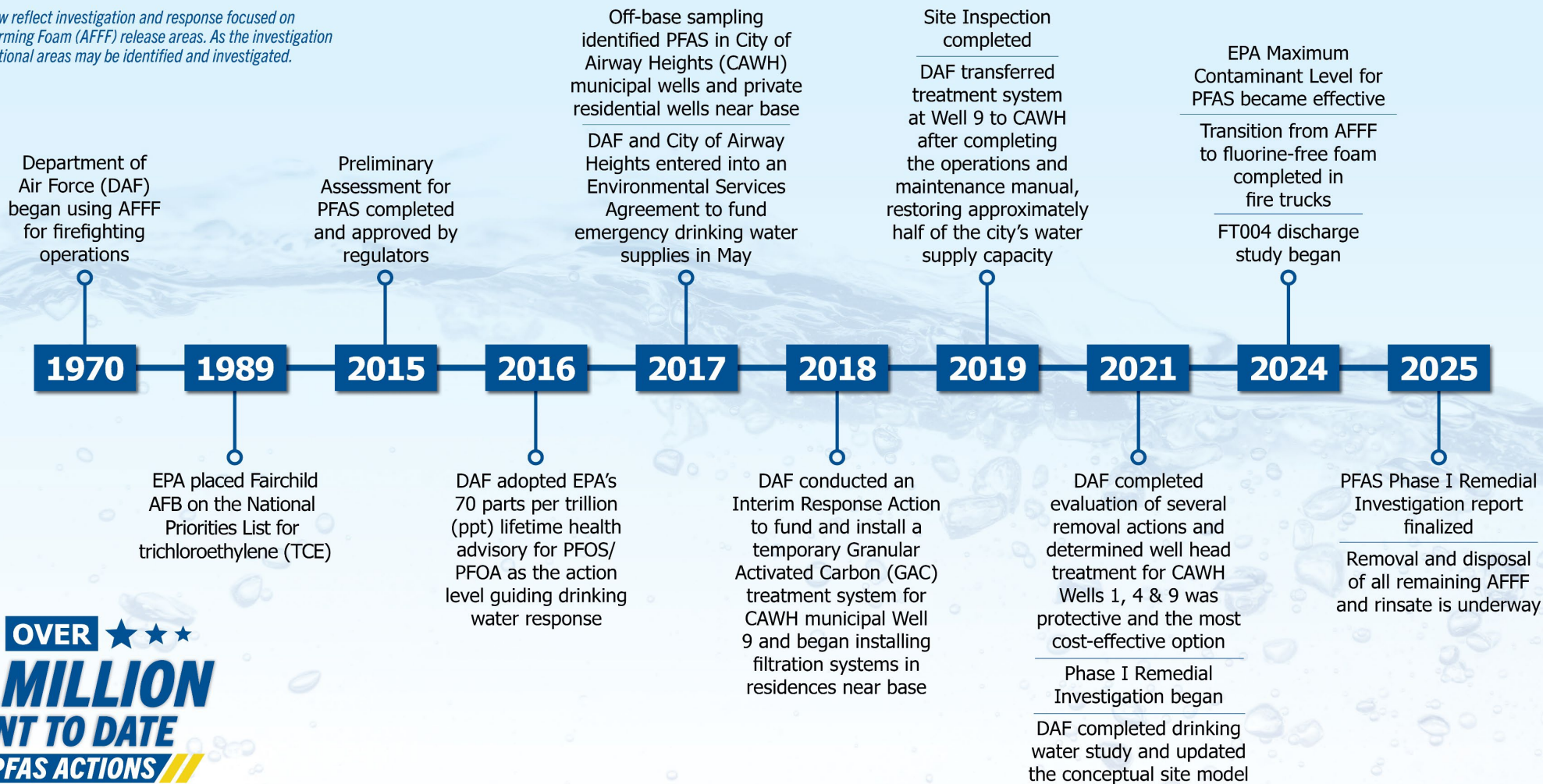
- POUTS only filter water at one tap, not throughout the entire home.
- Filters need regular care and replacement to keep the system working properly.
- Can be fitted to individual homes quickly, with minimal plumbing changes.
- Immediate step to supply alternate drinking water





Handout: Important PFAS Dates

The actions below reflect investigation and response focused on Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF) release areas. As the investigation progresses, additional areas may be identified and investigated.



★ ★ ★ **OVER** ★ ★ ★
\$56 MILLION
SPENT TO DATE
ON PFAS ACTIONS

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PFAS Response Spending to Date



- Expenditures to date Air Force wide: \$2.1 Billion (as of 31 December 2025)
- Expenditures to date for Fairchild AFB: \$56,097,829
 - Preliminary Assessment: \$35,918
 - Site Inspection: \$274,451
 - Drinking Water Protection Study: \$910,000
 - Remedial Investigation: \$4,253,276
 - Non-PFAS Due Diligence: \$27,029
 - CAWH EE/CA – Well Treatment: \$269,005
 - CAWH ESA – Alternate Water Supply: \$19,275,444
 - GAC O&M: \$27,326,890
 - FT004 PFAS Treatment Pilot Study: \$2,829,350
 - Stormwater Gate Project: \$896,466

★ ★ ★ **OVER** ★ ★ ★
\$56 MILLION
TO DATE
ON PFAS ACTIONS



PFAS Action Timeframes



- Below are estimated timeframes that are subject to change due to how long each phase takes to complete, funding availability, and overall DAF priority strategies
 - GAC Filtration System Installs, Sampling, Operations and Maintenance: 2017 – Current
 - City of Airway Heights Environmental Services Agreement: 2017 – Current
 - PFAS Remedial Investigation: September 2021 – June 2037
 - Phase 1 RI: Began September 2021 – August 2025
 - Background Study: September 2026 – September 2029 (3 years)
 - Phase 1A RI Data Gap: September 2026 – September 2031 (5 years)
 - Initially not budgeted for 2026 but Fairchild was prioritized in the plus up funding
 - Due Diligence: September 2027 – December 2028 (1.25 years)
 - Due Diligence Sampling: September 2026 – February 2028 (1.5 years)
 - Phase II RI (Risk Assessment): June 2034 – June 2037 (3 years)
 - Feasibility Study: June 2037 – June 2039 (2 years)
 - Proposed Plan/Record of Decision: June 2039 – June 2044 (5 years)



Additional Information



- Admin Record (AR) Links to Fairchild Air Force Base reports: <https://ar.cce.af.mil/>
- Preliminary Assessment: AR# 2100
- Site Inspection Work Plan: AR# 2325
- Site Inspection: AR# 2330
- Remedial Investigation Project Mgmt. Plan: AR# 2335
- Remedial Investigation: AR# 2442, 2443, 2444
- Drinking Water Protection Study: AR# 2440
- FT004 PFAS Treatment Pilot Study: AR# 2449
- 2023 Relative Risk Site Evaluation: AR# 2374
- PFAS Trend Analysis: AR# 2314
- Time Critical Remedial Action Memo for CAWH Well: AR# 2210
- Time Critical Remedial Action Memo for Residential Wells: AR# 2051

AFCEC ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

Administrative Record Search

Search Criteria

Active Duty Air National Guard BRAC

Fairchild AFB, WA [Show Contact Info](#)

Installation List:

- Fairchild AFB, WA
- Fairchild AFB, WA

Subject or Title:

Full Metadata Search:

Full Document Search:

Author:

Author Affil:

Recipient:

Recipient Affil:

AR #:

Sites: Site Filter ...

- AOC01 AOC 1
- AOC02 AOC 2
- CF061 Contaminated Soil at Building 1005 OWS
- CF062 Contaminated Soil at Building 1039 OWS
- DP012 Disposal Area Near Wang Test Cell (SW-10)

0 selected

Clear

OUs: OU Filter ...

- OU-1 Craig Road Landfill
- OU-2 Priority One Sites
- OU-3 Priority Two Sites
- OU-4 Priority Three Sites
- OU-5 SS-39
- OU-6 SR-939 Munitions Site

0 selected

Clear

RODs: ROD Filter ...

- 1995 ESD to the ROD for OU-1
- 2016 ESD to the ROD for OU-1
- 2018 ESD to the ROD for OU-3
- 2019 ESD to the ROD for OU-2
- Interim ROD for OU-5 (SS039)
- ROD Amendment for OU-1 (LF002 Craig Road Landfill)

0 selected

Clear

Documents After: mm/dd/yyyy

Documents Before: mm/dd/yyyy

Search Reset Search



Additional Information



**FAIRCHILD AIR FORCE
BASE**

DAF EXECUTIVE ORDER IMPLEMENTATION

FLYER WIRE

PA REQUESTS

NEWCOMERS

ENVIRONMENTAL

VISITOR INFORMATION

CONTACT US



Fairchild Environmental Hub

ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP

ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP PAGE

CONTENTS —

- WHAT ARE PFOS/PFOA
- TCE
- EXTERNAL AND PARTNER LINKS

PFOS/PFOA SNAPSHOT

PFOS/PFOA FACTSHEET

POINTS OF CONTACT +

RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD

RAB PAGE

CONTENTS —

- RAB MEETING MINUTES
- ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD
- FAFB OPEN HOUSE

POINTS OF CONTACT +

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE PAGE

CONTENTS —

- ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITMENT STATEMENT
- BASE DRINKING WATER
- FAFB STORMWATER POLLUTION PREVENTION PLAN (SWPPP)

<https://www.fairchild.af.mil/Information/Environmental-Hub/>

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Additional Information



- The Restoration office phone number has changed for homeowners within the Air Force sampling area.
 - New number: **509-247-2451**
- The private drinking water well treatment system emergency hotline number has also changed
 - New number: **509-866-6184**
 - New magnets coming soon for property owners!



Public Comments



- Time allotted for public question/comment on material presented
 - Questions not related to material presented will not be addressed and can be asked and discussed with an Air Force representative after the meeting
- Total time allotted – 15 minutes
- Per person time allotted – 3 minutes
- Write down questions that we do not get to, and we will follow up with a response within a few weeks



Acronyms and Abbreviations



- **AFB** Air Force Base
- **AF** Air Force
- **AFFF** Aqueous Film-Forming Foam
- **CAWH** City of Airway Heights
- **CERCLA** Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
- **CPA** Critical Process Analysis
- **DAF** Department of the Air Force
- **DoW** Department of War
- **DERP** Defense Environmental Restoration Program
- **EE/CA** Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis
- **ESA** Environmental Services Agreement
- **GAC** Granular Activated Carbon
- **LHA** Lifetime Health Advisory
- **MCL** Maximum Contaminant Level
- **ND** non-detect



Acronyms and Abbreviations (Cont'd)



- **NTCRA** Non-Time Critical Removal Action
- **OSW** Office of the Secretary of War
- **O&M** operations and maintenance
- **PBR** Performance-Based Remediation
- **PFAS** per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances
- **PFOS/PFOA** perfluorooctane sulfonate/perfluorooctanoic acid
- **POETS** Point-of-Entry Treatment System
- **POUTS** Point-of-Use Treatment System
- **RAB** Restoration Advisory Board
- **RI** Remedial Investigation
- **SAF** Secretary of the Air Force
- **TAPP** Technical Assistance for Public Participation
- **TCRA** Time Critical Removal Action
- **TS** treatability study
- **UV** ultraviolet



Meeting Adjourned

Thank you for coming!

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