DERP Forum

Strengthening Relationships with our Regulatory Partners

St. Louis, Missouri May 8-9, 2019

Air Force Civil Engineer Center

Integrity - Service - Excellence



Managing Complex
Sites in a Complex
Program:
Remediation
Challenges

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High Visibility Challenges

"Big picture" challenges get major focus

- Significant time, attention, deliberation
- Shared by many/most bases
- Robust policy, guidance, cross-feed, working groups, conferences, technical groups, USAF/DoD initiatives, etc.

Examples

- Dense Non-Aqueous Phase Liquids
- Emerging Contaminants
- Records of Decisions/Statements of Basis
- Public Involvement/Restoration Advisory Board
- Optimization

Site or Project-Specific Challenges

- Common and recurring themes with site/project-specific twists
- Minor issues can turn into major failure points, if not addressed
 - Utility Requirements
 - Underground Utilities
 - FAA & Flightline Issues
 - Sensitive Habitat
 - Endangered Species
 - Cultural Resources
 - Weather
 - Old Infrastructure & Infrastructure Improvement

- Backfill Quality/Testing
- Building Demo Uncertainties
- Local User Coordination
- Security Coordination
- Anthropogenic Background
- Shallow Aquifer: Dewatering
- "No dig" Mission Constraints
- Mission Support, Planning, Construction Review
- Nearby Construction/MILCONs

Programmatic or Administrative Challenges

- Identifying "Site-Related" vs "non-Site-Related" contamination – Regulatory agreement
- Commercial Users & Tenants Environmental liability
- Site/Contract Uncertainties
- Contract "Stretch" goals
- Balancing workload & schedule Regulatory, DoD, Contractor
- Knowledge of applicable regulations, especially where regulations lag advancing technology
- BRAC vs active Sites under same Federal Facility ID

Case Study: Petroleum Site



- Sub-slab contamination required building demolition
 - Significant asbestos
 - Disposal of interior equipment
 - Real Property coordination 1354
 - McKinney Act
- Coordination with MILCON project on adjacent property complicated demo
 & remediation
- Backfill issues
 - Passed analytical testing
 - Contained trash suspected spoil

Ancillary factors can turn technically "simple" Sites/contaminants into complicated projects!

Case Study: Re-Use

- 6 major new launch operations sited in areas with residual contamination
- Ensuring that remediation can coexist
- Managing well inventory
- Communicating controls/uncertainties
- Coordinating potentially MASSIVE dewatering and grading efforts
- Managing the aftermath of mishaps:
 - Sep 2016 "anomaly"
 - ERP Site (land use controls)
 - Operator is responsible for cleanup
 - USAF still property owner/permittee

