

# Restoration News

ISSUE 1, VOL. 1

APRIL 2011

U.S. AIR FORCE  
ELLSWORTH AFB, SD

## NEW HOME FOR THE INFORMATION REPOSITORY!

The Information Repository is now located at the South Dakota Air & Space Museum, and is available Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call (605) 385-5188 for more information.

## Next RAB Meeting

Mark your calendars! The next Restoration Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m., May 10, 2011 at Douglas Middle School. For more information, please call 385-2688, or 385-5056.

## VISIT OUR WEBSITE!

[www.ellsworth.af.mil/rab](http://www.ellsworth.af.mil/rab)

View the following:

- RAB presentations
- Public announcements
- Meeting information

## Welcome to Ellsworth AFB's Restoration Newsletter

Based on feedback we received from the community, we learned one of the best ways to get in touch with those in our area is through direct mailings. In response to this feedback, the Ellsworth AFB Environmental Restora-

tion Program will publish a newsletter twice a year in conjunction with Restoration Advisory Board meetings. The newsletter is a way we can get information out to community members interested in the Ellsworth AFB Superfund Site

cleanup program. If you have any topics you would like us to address, please feel free to let us know. Contact information is on the back of this newsletter. We hope you enjoy this newsletter and look forward to hearing from you.

## East Waterline Update

When the City of Box Elder took over the operation of the east water supply line from Ellsworth AFB in March 2007, several landowners requested permission to install irrigation wells in restricted areas. The Air Force then decided to evaluate alternatives to expedite the beneficial use of the off-base groundwater.

Ellsworth AFB has finalized an *Exit Strategy Report* for the Off-Base Groundwater Plume in October 2010. The report outlines a short term strategy to allow landowners to install new wells, or use existing wells, within the off-base plume and pump the groundwater for non-potable purposes.

Please note, non-potable water is unfit for humans to drink, but is clean enough for a variety of other uses, such as:

- Landscape Irrigation
- Garden Irrigation
- Swimming

The groundwater investigation and human health risk assessment docu-

mented in the *Exit Strategy Report* indicate that non-potable use of groundwater in the off-base plume would not result in unacceptable human health risks.

The Air Force Center for Engineering and the Environment granted concurrence to move forward on the limited non-potable beneficial use of groundwater for off-base residents on December 16, 2010.

The Air Force, Environmental Protection Agency, and South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources (SDDENR) approval document (*Explanation of Significant Differences*) must be signed before the Base will be able to start modifying Memorandum of Agreements (MOAs). The scheduled date for signing the document is **April 26, 2011**.

If you are interested in the limited non-potable beneficial use of groundwater (using a new or existing water well), please submit your written request with a site map showing the new or existing well location to the Ellsworth AFB environmental office:

**Jerry Styles**  
**28 CES/CEANR**  
**2125 Scott Drive**  
**Ellsworth AFB, SD 57706**

After submitting your request, new MOAs will have to be prepared and legally reviewed before new or existing wells will be allowed to be used. Costs associated with drilling new wells, installation of pumps/hydrants, and/or operation of existing wells are borne by the landowner. The landowner must also comply with all applicable regulations.

For a listing of applicable State of South Dakota regulations, visit: <http://www.ellsworth.af.mil/rab>

To view the complete regulations, visit: <http://legis.state.sd.us/rules/index.aspx>

Questions about State of South Dakota regulations can be directed to the SDDENR. Points of contact can be found at:

<http://denr.sd.gov/WhotoCall.pdf>

## Proposed Plan

The Air Force is currently preparing a proposed plan which identifies the preferred alternatives for cleaning up the contaminated groundwater on-base at the OU-11 Basewide Groundwater Operable Unit, and provides the rationale for this preference. The

proposed plan will be available for public comment this summer at the Information Repository (South Dakota Air & Space Museum). Additionally, a public meeting will be held to discuss the proposed plan. An announcement will be printed in the

*Rapid City Journal* when the proposed plan is available for public comment and when the public meeting date, time and location are set. These announcements will also be posted on our website:

<http://www.ellsworth.af.mil/rab>



**Ellsworth AFB Environmental  
Restoration Program**

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<http://www.ellsworth.af.mil/rab>



**The next Restoration Advisory  
Board meeting is scheduled for  
7 p.m., May 10, 2011 at Douglas  
Middle School.**

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2125 Scott Drive  
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FOR OFFICIAL BUSINESS

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