

# Calverton Restoration Advisory Board for Former Navy/Grumman site

U.S. NAVY Seeking [insert location] Residents to Join the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB)



## What is a Restoration Advisory Board or RAB ?

A collective forum for the community, government agencies, tribes, and installation decision makers to discuss, and identify the most efficient and productive means to restore the environment at a site formerly owned by the DoD, where the DoD is overseeing the cleanup process.

RAB members provide input to installation decision makers. They have direct access to environmental agencies overseeing the cleanup. They can share their questions, concerns, and ideas with agencies involved in the cleanup. While RABs do provide valuable information, it is *not* a decision-making body.

## Who are RAB Members?

RAB members should be a cross-section of local community residents who represent diverse community interests. This means a RAB member can be a teacher, environmental advocate, business owner, grocery clerk, parent, member of a community organization, or a farmer, these are just some examples. This not only ensures equitable representation of the community but also ensures information reaches the entire community.

## Why is a RAB Important?

The Navy encourages community involvement throughout the entire environmental restoration process. Residents, who understand their community, and volunteer to represent it, provide meaningful input regarding the cleanup activities within their community. While the general public can comment on the DoD's efforts, RABs are a focused and interactive opportunity to participate in the process.

**Where does a RAB meet?** All meetings are announced and held at a location within the community; some meetings may be held virtually.

**When does a RAB meet?** There are [insert number] official RAB meetings for the [insert location] RAB.

**Community Participation** Community members are encouraged to attend the two annual RAB meetings that are open to the public. The public is also encouraged to contact official RAB members with any questions or concerns throughout the cleanup process.

## RAB Responsibilities

- Member should represent and communicate community interests and concerns
- Be willing to learn about the Environmental Restoration Process and actions at the site
- Assist in establishment of a mission statement, goals, and operating procedures
- Address issues associated with the environmental restoration activities
- Provide advice and comment on restoration issues to the decision makers
- Provide information to the greater community
- Serve a specified term, typically a one to two-year term, and attend RAB meetings regularly
- When applicable, review and comment on documentation and activities

## How the Navy Partners with the RAB

- Maintains a record of RAB activities
- Maintains an information repository on all activities related to the site
- Informs RAB about key issues and upcoming decisions
- Considers and responds, in a timely manner, to RAB questions, concerns, and ideas.
- Provides adequate funding for administrative and technical support

**How Can I Get Involved?** If you are interested in serving on the [insert location] RAB, please complete a membership request form. Upon submission, forms will be reviewed and approved by a selection panel. The panel reviews submissions to understand applicants commitment level, and ensure members represent interests of community. Local residents of [insert location] interested in the ongoing environmental restoration activities at the former [insert location] site should go to **WEBSITE** for more information and for the link to the form.