



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

BUFFALO DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
1776 NIAGARA STREET
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14207-3199

REPLY TO:

02 APR 2008

Executive Office

SUBJECT: Department of Defense Restoration Advisory Board for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Projects at the Former Lake Ontario Ordnance Works Site

Dear Interested Citizen:

The purpose of this letter is to request your input on the establishment of a Department of Defense (DoD) Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) for the Corps of Engineers projects at the former Lake Ontario Ordnance Works (LOOW) site located in the towns of Lewiston and Porter in New York. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Buffalo District, is accepting written responses through May 7, 2008. Your response is an important element in the Corps decision whether to include a DoD RAB forum in its public participation program for our environmental projects at the LOOW.

A DoD RAB is a panel of community and government representatives who meet to discuss environmental restoration activities being conducted by the Corps. It is one forum for the Corps to engage affected communities and enhance the exchange of information and understanding of Corps projects and community concerns. Since 1998, when the Buffalo District started the environmental restoration projects at the LOOW, the Corps has supported the community's interest in participating in a RAB forum. Over the years, this forum has evolved in response to community and government input.

The Buffalo District is acting now to implement the DoD RAB regulations by soliciting community interest in participating in a DoD LOOW-RAB forum established and led by the Corps of Engineers in accordance with the DoD standards. The Corps is required to do this every 24 months. I have enclosed a fact sheet summarizing what you can expect from a DoD RAB. Additional detailed information is available in the *Restoration Advisory Board Rule Handbook* published by the Office of the Secretary of Defense in March 2007. This publication is available on the Buffalo District's web page: www.lrb.usace.army.mil/derpfuds/loow-nfss.

We request your input on whether you have interest in the Buffalo District establishing a DoD RAB forum. If you are interested in having the Corps establish a DoD RAB, please submit your written response to us by May 7, 2008. Your letter may be sent to the attention of Ms. Arleen Kreusch, Outreach Program Specialist, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Buffalo District, 1776 Niagara Street, Buffalo, NY 14207.

If there is sufficient interest, the Buffalo District will move forward with the process to establish the DoD RAB structure and membership. Regardless of whether a DoD RAB forum is

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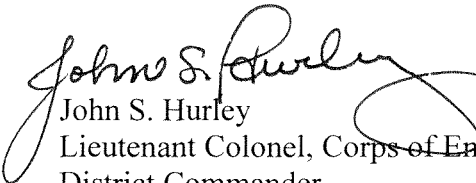
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desired by the community or agencies, the Corps will continue to meet or exceed its public participation requirements pursuant to Federal laws and regulations such as holding public meetings, conducting presentations, and maintaining an information repository in the Lewiston Public Library and the Youngstown Free Library.

A copy of this letter was mailed to your federal, state, and local representatives. If you require additional information on our projects at the LOOW or DoD RABs, please visit the Buffalo District website at www.lrb.usace.army.mil/derpfuds/loow-nfss or contact my Outreach Program Specialist, Ms. Arleen Kreusch at (716) 879-4438.

Sincerely,


John S. Hurley
Lieutenant Colonel, Corps of Engineers
District Commander

Enclosure