



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 2
290 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, NY 10007-1866

APR 08 2008

Lt. Col. John S. Hurley, District Commander
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Buffalo District
1776 Niagara Street
Buffalo, NY 14207-3199
Washington, D.C. 20515-3011

Dear Lt. Col. Hurley:

This is in reply to your letter of April 1, 2008, in which you asked if the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has an interest in having the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Buffalo District establish a Department of Defense (DoD) Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) for USACE projects at the former Lake Ontario Ordnance Works (LOOW) Site.

As I am sure you are aware, Mr. Michael Basile, our Public Affairs Specialist in our Western New York office continues to act as EPA's representative on the various public forum activities the USACE Buffalo District has traditionally sponsored or supported for its projects in your area. Mike has also facilitated and coordinated the input of technical expertise from our Regional Office when appropriate. Both Mike and our regional technical staff have been represented on a similar RAB for the LOOW site which was apparently formulated prior to the RAB regulations you cite in your letter. We have appreciated the opportunity to participate in these activities, and believe they provided a generally effective avenue for public input. If you determine that it is necessary to charter a reconstituted RAB, we welcome the opportunity to continue our participation.

We understand that currently there are between 25 and 30 citizens who have been previously involved with the LOOW RAB and who have some degree of expertise that may be valuable to any new RAB you may constitute.

If and when you do establish such a RAB, I anticipate Mike will be our representative and, when technical expertise from within our Regional Office may be needed, he will be able to coordinate that effort.

If you need further information, please let me know or have your staff contact Michael Basile, at (716) 551-4410 or Paul Giardina, Chief, Radiation and Indoor Air Branch, at (212) 637-4010.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Walter Mugdan", is written over a horizontal line.

Walter Mugdan, Director
Division of Environmental Planning & Protection