

# Waste site review causes confusion

**OL SIDE OPINION:** *Not everyone's satisfied with a scientific review of plans to cap radioactive waste and residues in the Town of Lewiston.*

**By Mary Wozniak**  
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National experts will soon begin a review of a plan to put a permanent cap on a site full of radioactive waste and residues in the Town of Lewiston. But that isn't necessarily cause for a collective sigh of relief on the part of those who oppose the plan.

What it means depends on who you ask.

Some opponents among area residents say the National Academy of Science's upcoming review of the plan for the Niagara Falls Storage Site, near Lutts and Pletcher roads, will probably be nothing more than a rubber stamp for the Department of Energy, which aims to put a final cap on it.

Federal officials themselves seem not quite clear on what the review is supposed to accomplish.

U.S. Rep. John J. LaFalce, D-Tonawanda, announced the academy's intention to review the energy department plan to put a final cap on the site. LaFalce had worked

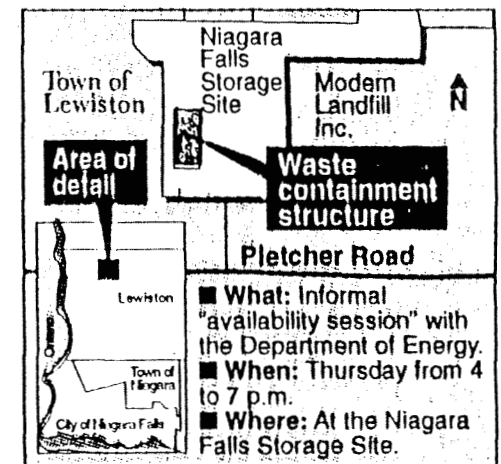
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behind the scenes to spur the review.

"The academy is to provide an opinion on the validity of DOE's (energy department's) proposed permanent cap on radioactive residues and, if found inadequate, to examine alternatives," he said in a written statement.

"Further, once the Academy of Sciences' study is completed, the Department of Energy will then review the study's re-

*Please see* **Lewiston, 2A**



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