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## Radioactive waste plan review taken seriously

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They may take a second look, but that doesn't mean they'll change their minds.

An official from the Washington, D.C., headquarters of the Department of Energy said Thursday that department officials will take "very, very seriously" any recommendations made by the National Academy of Sciences once they review the adequacy of the containment standards for radioactive waste and residues buried at the Niagara Falls Storage Site in Lewiston.

If the academy says the containment standards are not ad-

equate, then the energy department will ask them to look at alternate long-term solutions, said John E. Baublitz, associate deputy assistant secretary for Environmental Restoration.

But taking another look at possible solutions doesn't necessarily mean that highly radioactive residue will be dug up and moved out of Lewiston, as opponents of the energy department's plan to put a final clay cap on the site desire.

**REACTION:** *Residents think capping plan is on hold, 3A.*