

# Radioactive waste site being studied

By BOB KOSTOFF  
*Metro Staff Reporter*

Recommendations by a scientific panel studying the radioactive waste site in the Town of Lewiston are expected by fall.

Five members of the subcommittee of the National Academy of Sciences visited the site off Fletcher Road last Monday and talked with the public.

Robert Catlin, of the University of Texas Health Sciences Center and chairman of the subcommittee, said information would be gathered and studied during the summer and a report ready by September. The report would go to the academy for review before going to the Department of Energy.

Catlin said the subcommittee would take a "fresh look" at the situation and study alternatives. The DOE, however, does not have to accept the subcommittee's recommendations.

The DOE wants to put a permanent cap on the more than 200,000 cubic yards of radioactive residues and wastes, some of it high level radiation.

Area residents, environmentalists and state and federal health and environmental agencies want the material removed rather than permanently stored at the site.

A DOE official emphasized that the subcommittee was not acting as technical consultants for a storage plan but only as a peer review committee to find out if there were any problems with the DOE storage plan.

200-1e

NFSS\_08.08\_0332\_a