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FEATURED

Public comments released on plans for Niagara Falls Storage Site

Staff reports 15 hrs ago



JAMES NEISS

The US Army Corp of Engineers held a public meeting in January to give the public a look at their plan for the Niagara Falls Storage Site and invite public comment at the Lewiston Senior Center.

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The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers released the public comments for the Niagara Falls Storage Site Interim Waste Containment Structure Operable Unit Proposed Plan on Monday afternoon.

There were just over 30 comments submitted, with 10 including concerns about the process.

There were no comments opposed to the proposed Alternative 4, which calls for removal and transportation of all waste in the site's IWCS. Rather, the concerns mainly pertained to means of transportation of the removed waste, the long-argued potential leakage and the possibility of health consequences among residents prior to the waste's containment.

Among those supporting the proposed plan were many notable entities: Niagara County Department of Health, Environmental Health Division; U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; LOOW Community Action Council; the Tuscarora Nation; and the town of Lewiston. Several individual residents, policymakers and more submitted their support of the proposed plan, as well.

The comments are available to the public at www.lrb.usace.army.mil/Missions/HTRW/FUSRAP/NiagaraFallsStorageSite.aspx under the Reports section. The Corps has said the transcripts will be available under the Public Presentations/Posters/Transcripts section, but the document was not up by press time.

The next step for the IWCS Operable Unit will be the record of decision. NFSS project team members will review the comments from the Dec. 7 to Feb. 6 public comment period and weigh them when making their final decision. The public still awaits the feasibility studies and proposed plans for the remaining two operable units within the site.

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