US Army Corps of Engineers
Buffalo District

Remedial Investigation & Baseline Risk Assessment

1 What was the Remedial Investigation at the Niagara Falls Storage Site?

The ***Remedial Investigation*** included three phases of sampling and laboratory analysis conducted to identify the nature and extent of environmental contamination and associated risks resulting from past federal activities under the Nation's early atomic weapons program.

2 What was investigated?

- ✓ Surface and subsurface soils on the site
- ✓ Groundwater under the site
- ✓ Sediment and surface water on the site (including manholes and pipelines)

3 Was contamination found at the site?

Evidence of residual chemical and radiological contamination was found at the site including polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), metals, pesticides, volatile organic compounds, semi-volatile organic compounds, and isotopes of radium, thorium, uranium, and cesium.

4 Why was a Baseline Risk Assessment conducted?

The ***Baseline Risk Assessment*** was conducted to evaluate the risk to human health and the environment from residual chemical and radiological contamination.

5 What are the health risks at the site?

There are currently no immediate hazards to safety or health from radiological or chemical exposure within the Niagara Falls Storage Site or to a member of the public outside the site with current site controls.

Transport simulations indicate that the Interim Waste Contaminant Structure (IWCS) should effectively mitigate contaminant migration for 200 years as long as the site maintenance program is continued to prevent degradation of the clay cap.

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Niagara Falls Storage Site—Lewiston, New York