



# Niagara Falls Storage Site

Lewiston, NY

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**  
**Buffalo District**  
**April 2011**

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## Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP)

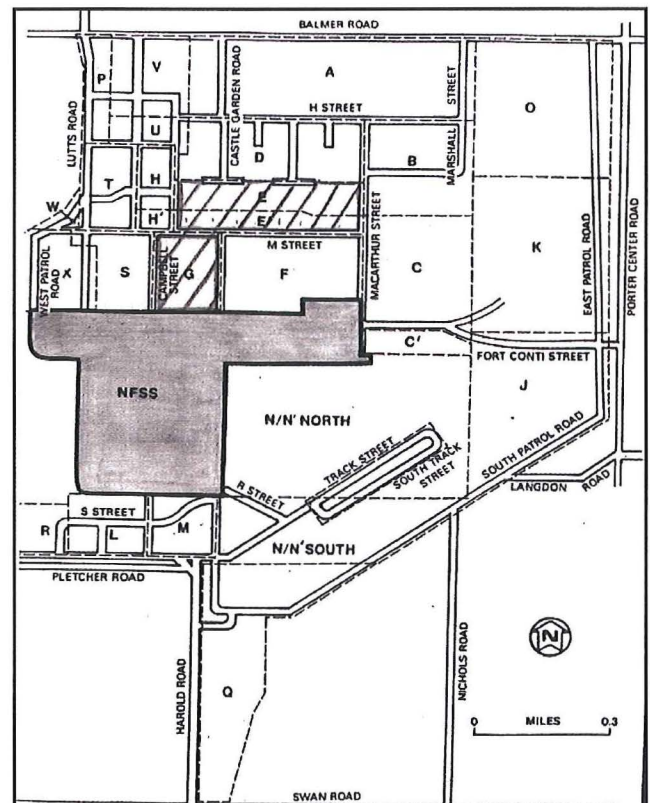
FUSRAP was initiated in 1974 to identify, investigate, and clean up or control sites throughout the United States that were part of the Nation's early atomic weapons and energy programs during the 1940s, 1950s, and 1960s. Congress transferred management of FUSRAP from the U.S. Department of Energy to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in 1997. When implementing FUSRAP, the Corps follows the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) and the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan.

## Site Description and History

The Niagara Falls Storage Site (NFSS) is located at 1397 Pletcher Road in Lewiston, NY. The 191-acre, Federally owned site is a remnant of a larger Lake Ontario Ordnance Works (LOOW) Site used by the wartime Manhattan Engineer District (MED). The NFSS and adjacent LOOW properties were developed for the production of trinitrotoluene (TNT) during World War II. However, TNT production never reached full capacity and the site became an interim storage facility, first receiving radioactive wastes and residues in 1944. Interim remedial actions addressed radioactive residues stored at various locations on the site and widespread contaminated soil on the site. In addition, these actions addressed on-site and off-site drainage areas that had been contaminated from migration of radioactive materials.

During remedial actions conducted by the U.S. Department of Energy from 1982 to 1986, approximately 240,000 cubic yards of residues and wastes were consolidated in a diked containment area known as the interim waste containment structure (IWCS). The 10-acre engineered IWCS is located in the southwest corner of the site.

Additionally, the Corps is responsible for environmental investigation and response at three open vicinity properties, designated as Vicinity Property E, E' and G on an adjacent private parcel owned by CWM Chemical Services, LLC. These open vicinity properties were impacted by the MED and the Atomic Energy Commission; however, not all portions of the properties were accessible for investigation by the U.S. Department of Energy during the 1980s.



*NFSS and associated open Vicinity Properties E, E', and G within Former LOOW Site boundaries*

## **Current Status**

The Corps operates and maintains the NFSS to ensure the physical security and environmental integrity of the site grounds, infrastructure, buildings, and the 10-acre IWCS. Environmental surveillance is conducted annually to ensure the site controls remain protective of human health and the environment.

The Remedial Investigation (RI) Report for NFSS was publicly released in December 2007. In response to comments received from the public on the RI Report, additional sampling was performed to develop an addendum to the RI which was released in April 2011.

The NFSS was divided into three operable units (OUs) for the Feasibility Study (FS) phase of the CERCLA process:

- IWCS
- Balance of Plant (remaining site soils)
- Groundwater

To encourage early public input and involvement on key technical issues that have impacts on the selection and evaluation of remedial alternatives for the IWCS OU, five technical memoranda will be prepared for the IWCS FS as follows:

- Radon Assessment
- Development of Remedial Action Objectives and Applicable or Relevant and Appropriate Requirements for both the Interim Waste Containment Structure and Balance of Plant Operable Units
- Development of Waste Disposal Options and Fernald Lessons Learned
- Interim Waste Containment Structure Remedial Alternatives Technologies Development and Screening
- IWCS Exposure Assessment

The information developed within the technical memoranda will be integrated in the IWCS FS report.

Once the IWCS FS is complete, the next phase of the CERCLA process will be to release a proposed plan with a preferred alternative for the IWCS.

The FS for the remaining site soils and groundwater will be delayed until after signing of the Record of Decision for the IWCS OU.

## **Administrative Record File**

The Administrative Record File for the NFSS FUSRAP Site contains the Remedial Investigation Report, Baseline Risk Assessment, Groundwater Flow and Contaminant Transport Modeling and other CERCLA-related documentation for the NFSS. Reports and documents in the Administrative Record may be viewed at the following locations:

US Army Corps of Engineers  
1776 Niagara Street  
Buffalo, New York 14207 (by  
appointment only)

Town of Lewiston Public Library  
305 South 8th Street  
Lewiston, NY 14092

Youngstown Free Library  
240 Lockport Street  
Youngstown, NY 14174

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### **U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS – BUFFALO DISTRICT FUSRAP TEAM**

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Website: [www.lrb.usace.army.mil/fusrap/nfss/index.htm](http://www.lrb.usace.army.mil/fusrap/nfss/index.htm)