



FUSRAP REVIEW



ERIE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE SPRING 1993, VOL. 10

Welcome to the tenth issue of **FUSRAP REVIEW**. This publication is produced by the Erie County Division of Environmental Compliance Services to provide current information on the U.S. Department of Energy (USDOE) remedial investigation of the five Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP) Tonawanda properties. The purpose of this newsletter is to provide quarterly updates on the status of the investigation as well as pertinent background information on the issues involved.

The last issue of the **FUSRAP REVIEW** presented important information regarding the cleanup alternatives under consideration and the decision-making process which impacts the cleanup selection.

ANNOUNCEMENT -- The USDOE will hold an informal **AVAILABILITY SESSION** on Wednesday, June 16, 1993 from 4:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. at the new Tonawanda Site Information Center located at 810 Sheridan Drive. The public is welcome to come anytime between the hours of 4:00 P.M. and 7:00 P.M. Representatives from the USDOE will be available to answer questions on any issues. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend.

For those individuals that were unable to attend the last Availability Session held on March 10, approximately 50 people participated in the exchange of information.

BACKGROUND ON THE TONAWANDA SITE

Currently, there are five properties which comprise the Tonawanda FUSRAP site: the Linde Center; Ashland 1; Ashland 2; the Seaway Industrial Park; and the Tonawanda Landfill. These properties contain residual radioactive waste as a result of uranium processing at the Linde Plant for the Manhattan Engineer District (MED) during World War II.

The total calculated volume of contaminated materials to date is approximately 350,000 cubic yards. The volume for the Tonawanda Landfill is yet to be determined.

Although the Linde property was previously

decommissioned in 1953, the cleanup activities were performed in accordance with the guidelines in existence at that time.

Based on radiological surveys performed in the 1970's, additional cleanup is necessary to ensure the properties are decontaminated in accordance with current guidelines.

THE ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW PROCESS

The USDOE will comply with specific procedures established in federal laws and regulations, which provide guidance for site remediation and environmental restoration activities at FUSRAP proper-

ties. The procedures provide guidelines for data collection, site characterization and human risk assessment. A segment of the procedures explain the process required to identify cleanup alternatives.

As stated in the last FUSRAP REVIEW the draft Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study - Environmental Impact Statement (RI/FS-EIS) and Proposed Plan will be available for public comment. Currently, it is expected that the documents will be available for review sometime in June 1993. The Proposed Plan will present the six cleanup alternatives under review and the recommended preferred alternative. The Tonawanda Landfill is not part of the RI/FS, and will be assessed in a separate document.

The Tonawanda site-wide alternatives being evaluated are:

- 1) No Action
- 2) Complete Excavation *with Offsite Disposal
- 3) Complete Excavation *with Onsite Disposal
- 4) Partial Excavation** with Offsite Disposal
- 5) Partial Excavation ** with Onsite Disposal
- 6) Containment with Institutional Controls

*Complete Excavation: All MED-contaminated soils including material within the Seaway Landfill

**Partial Excavation: MED-contaminated soils that are accessible excluding the material within the Seaway Landfill

PUBLIC MEETING TO BE SCHEDULED

A public meeting will be held at least 15 days after release of the RI/FS-EIS and Proposed Plan. If you would like to provide comments on the documents, please plan on attending the public meeting. Look for upcoming announcements in the

Ken-Ton Bee, the Tonawanda News, and the Buffalo News for the date, time and location.

Once the comment period has ended, the USDOE will develop a Record of Decision (ROD) with a responsiveness summary which addresses comments received on the Proposed Plan. The ROD will contain the preferred cleanup alternative and the explanation for the alternative selected. The ROD for the Tonawanda FUSRAP properties is anticipated to be released in the Fall/Winter 1993.

The ROD is a legally binding document signed by the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Environmental Restoration of the USDOE's administrative branch.

Once the ROD is published, a remedial design (RD) is developed for the properties. The detailed engineering design consists of construction drawings and contract specifications.

The remedial action (RA) is the actual construction phase that follows the remedial design. The RD is expected to begin no later than 15 months after the ROD has been signed.

CANiT MEMBERS TOUR FUSRAP SITES

On March 11, 1993, members of the Coalition Against Nuclear materials in Tonawanda (CANiT) participated in a USDOE tour of the Tonawanda FUSRAP properties in addition to the Niagara Falls Storage Site. The tour enabled CANiT members to view each FUSRAP property. CANiT's members are a group of bipartisan elected local officials who joined together in response to the USDOE's proposed Remedial Investigation/ Feasibility Study-Environmental Impact Statement (RI/FS-EIS) for the Tonawanda properties.

USDOE provided funding for CANiT to hire a consultant to provide technical expertise to the coalition. Dr. Martin Haas has been retained to provide this service and will be reviewing the draft RI/FS-EIS and Proposed Plan expected to be released this Spring/Summer.

The CANiT group is presently composed of the following charter members:

- 1) Hon. [REDACTED]
Member of Congress - 32nd District
- 2) Hon. [REDACTED]
State Senator - 61st District
- 3) Hon. [REDACTED]
State Senator - 60th District
- 4) Hon. [REDACTED]
Assemblymember - 140th District
- 5) Hon. [REDACTED]
Assemblymember - 142th District
- 6) Hon. [REDACTED]
Assemblymember - 144th Dist.
- 7) Hon. [REDACTED]
Erie County Executive
- 8) Hon. [REDACTED]
County Legislator - 10th District
- 9) Hon. [REDACTED]
County Legislator - 11th District
- 10) Hon. [REDACTED]
Supervisor, (T) Tonawanda
- 11) Hon. [REDACTED]
Supervisor (T) Grand Island
- 12) Hon. [REDACTED]
Mayor, (C) Tonawanda
- 13) Hon. [REDACTED]
Mayor, (C) North Tonawanda

To obtain additional information on CANiT, please call Erie County Department of Environment and Planning at 716-858-6370.

USDOE TONAWANDA INFORMATION CENTER OPENED

The USDOE has recently opened an Information Center at 810 Sheridan Drive in Tonawanda. The center will be staffed on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. Project information pertaining to the five FUSRAP properties can be reviewed at the center. The local telephone number of the center is 716-871-9660.

WORKSHOP HELD AT NEW USDOE INFORMATION CENTER

The USDOE conducted a workshop on April 14, 1993 for six local residents. Upon request, DOE will hold additional workshops to provide information about Tonawanda site disposal options. These workshops will last approximately two hours and can be scheduled for 10 to 12 individuals.

If you are interested in additional information or would like to attend a workshop please call:

Erie County Department of Environment and Planning
716-858-6370

U.S. Department of Energy Toll Free Telephone Number
1-800-253-9759

U.S. Department of Energy Tonawanda Public Information Center
716-871-9660

LOCATION OF DOCUMENT REPOSITORIES

Document repositories have been established at four public libraries in the Tonawanda and Grand Island municipalities, and the USDOE Tonawanda Public Information Center. All current draft and final documents are available at the libraries' reference desks. The five repositories are located at:

- 1) Kenmore Public Library
160 Delaware Avenue

- 2) Tonawanda Public Library
333 Main Street
- 3) Parkside Village Public Library
169 Sheridan-Parkside Drive
- 4) Grand Island Memorial Public Library
1715 Bedell Road
- 5) USDOE Tonawanda Public Information
Center
810 Sheridan Drive

INFORMATION HOTLINE

The Erie County Department of Environment and Planning has established an Information Hotline to provide answers to area residents about the FUSRAP program and the Tonawanda site. The number is 716-858-6370, Monday through Friday from 8:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. The public is encouraged to use the hotline to comment on this newsletter as well as seek information on the five Tonawanda properties.

USDOE CONTACT

If you would like to contact the USDOE, Ron Kirk, the USDOE Site Manager, may be reached at: Former Sites Restoration Division, U.S.

Department of Energy, Oak Ridge Operations, P.O. Box 2001, Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831-8723.

A toll free telephone number has been established by the USDOE for those seeking additional information regarding FUSRAP. Individuals may call 1-800-253-9759 to make comments or request information.

GLOSSARY

FUSRAP - Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program

MED - Manhattan Engineer District

RA - Remedial Action

RD - Remedial Design

RI/FS-EIS - Remedial Investigation/ Feasibility Study-Environmental Impact Statement

ROD - Record of Decision

THE FUSRAP REVIEW IS PUBLISHED QUARTERLY BY THE ERIE COUNTY DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE SERVICES UNDER CONTRACT TO THE USDOE.

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