Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program • September 1999

This fact sheet has been prepared to address community outreach needs and is consistent with provisions of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). Fact sheets are one part of an effort to provide public information on environmental restoration and waste management.

Site Description and History

The Tonawanda Landfill consists of approximately 55 acres in the Town of Tonawanda, New York. Adjacent properties include a residential area within the City of Tonawanda, a railroad spur line, a Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation utility corridor, and a former municipal incinerator that is no longer in use.

Waste disposal at the landfill began during the 1930s and continued through 1989. Records indicate that the landfill was principally used for the disposal of household waste, construction and demolition material, leaves, incinerator ash, and unburned municipal waste.

As the result of a radiological survey performed in 1991, the Tonawanda Landfill was designated as a "Vicinity Property" to the former Linde Site under the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP). FUSRAP is a Federal program that identifies and restores sites contaminated with radioactive materials resulting from the early years of the nation's atomic energy program.



Characterization Studies of the Landfill

Since 1960, several studies have been conducted at the landfill to gather more information about site conditions and the nature of the the materials deposited there.

A radiological survey conducted in 1991 identified soil concentrations of the radionuclides radium-226, thorium-230, and uranium-238 above Federal guidelines at isolated locations within the landfill.

Additional characterization performed in 1994 helped determine the maximum depth of radiological contamination at previously surveyed locations. This characterization identified contamination to a maximum depth of 11.5 feet at one location. Remaining locations did not exhibit contamination above guidelines below a depth of 1.5 feet.

For More Information

For more information, please call the FUSRAP toll-free public access line. Your call will be returned promptly.

Toll-free Telephone Number: 1-800-833-6390

Please refer to the Buffalo District FUSRAP web pages on the Internet for up-to-date information.

Buffalo District Home Page Address: http://www.lrb.usace.army.mil

Please let us know if you would like to be included on the mailing list for the Town of Tonawanda Landfill Vicinity Property to the Linde Site.

You may also contact the:

U. S. Army Corps of Engineers FUSRAP Public Information Center 1776 Niagara Street Buffalo, NY 14207

(716) 879-4438