

FUSRAP Fact Sheet

Town of Tonawanda Landfill & Mudflats Area

Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program • February 2001

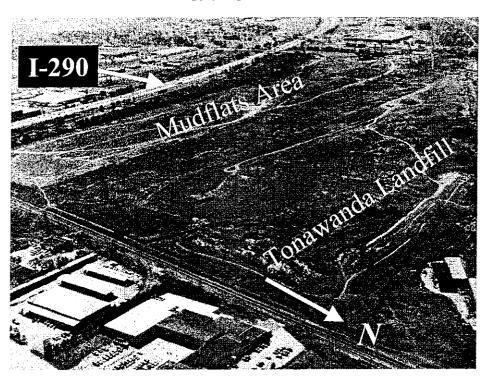
This fact sheet has been prepared to address community outreach needs and is consistent with provisions of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). Fact sheets are one part of an effort to provide public information on environmental restoration and waste management.

Site Description and History

The Tonawanda Landfill and Mudflats Area consists of approximately 170 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, Interstate 290, 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 construction and demolition material, leaves, incinerator ash, and municipal waste.

As the result of a radiological survey performed in 1991, the Tonawanda Landfill and Mudflats Area was designated as a "Vicinity Property" of 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

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.

A health assessment performed for the property in 1999 determined that potential risks associated with the contamination under current land use conditions did not exceed guidelines.

Current Status

The Corps is currently performing a remedial investigation/feasbility study for the Tonawanda Landfill and Mudflats Area. Fieldwork will begin in the spring. This investigation will gather more information about site conditions and the nature of the materials deposited there.

For More Information

For more information, please call the FUSRAP toll-free public access line.

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/fusrap

E-mail can be sent to us at: fusrap@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 mail letters to us at:

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