

**Guterl site considered for N-waste**

Jurisdiction over an industrial site in Lockport, contaminated with nuclear waste from the 1940s and 1950s, has been transferred from the U.S. Department of Energy to the Buffalo District of the Army Corps of Engineers, Rep. John J. LaFalce, D-Town of Tonawanda, announced Wednesday.

The Corps will evaluate the former Guterl Specialty Steel Corp. property, previously Simonds Saw & Steel Co., for possible inclusion in the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program. Simonds had a contract with the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission from 1948 to 1956 to manufacture uranium rods and mill thorium.

LaFalce said he sent a letter Wednesday to Maj. Gen. Russell Fuhrman, chief of engineers for the Army Corps of Engineers, requesting a written reply to recent descriptions of radioactive contamination at the site and written confirmation that the Corps will fully evaluate the site.

It was reported that the radioactivity at the site was concentrated in the plant's walls and soil and posed little danger unless the land was disturbed or the buildings were torn down.

The Corps is working at similar radioactive sites in the Lewiston and the Town of Tonawanda.