



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers** ®  
Buffalo District

Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program  
Guterl Steel Site  
Lockport, New York  
March 2008

*The Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP) is an environmental program that addresses radiological contamination at sites used in the early years of the nation's atomic energy program. Most of these activities involved Manhattan Engineering District and Atomic Energy Commission activities.*

## **Background**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is investigating the nature and extent of radiological contamination at the former Guterl Specialty Steel site (formerly Simonds Saw and Steel site) in the city of Lockport, New York.

The site is located about 20 miles northeast of Buffalo and is bordered by Route 93 to the west, Route 31 to the north, Ohio Street and the Erie Barge Canal to the south and east.

The former Manhattan Engineer District and Atomic Energy Commission used this site for atomic energy and defense activities between 1948 and 1955. The facility was used for foundry work and rolling mill operations on over 25-million pounds of uranium metals and over 30-thousand pounds of thorium metals.

A Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection Report, released in 2001, recommended a Remedial Investigation to further characterize radiological contamination.

The Remedial Investigation is underway. USACE reviewed historical information and coordinated with state, county and local agencies, and stakeholders. Project specific goals and data quality objectives are established and a data gap analysis was completed. Data quality assurance and control measures were developed for sampling of site surface soil, subsurface soil, groundwater, sediments, surface water, and building media. Sampling and associated data gathering activities were completed in December 2007. Independent laboratory analytical data is under review and will be used to define the nature and extent, and quantity of radiological contamination and to evaluate the potential risk to human health and the environment from the contamination.

Work scheduled in 2008 includes development of a groundwater model, preparing a fate, transport and exposure analysis, performing a baseline risk assessment and evaluating legally applicable, relevant and appropriate requirements (ARARs). The results will be documented in a Remedial Investigation report that is scheduled to be completed in early 2009.



Aerial view looking southeast

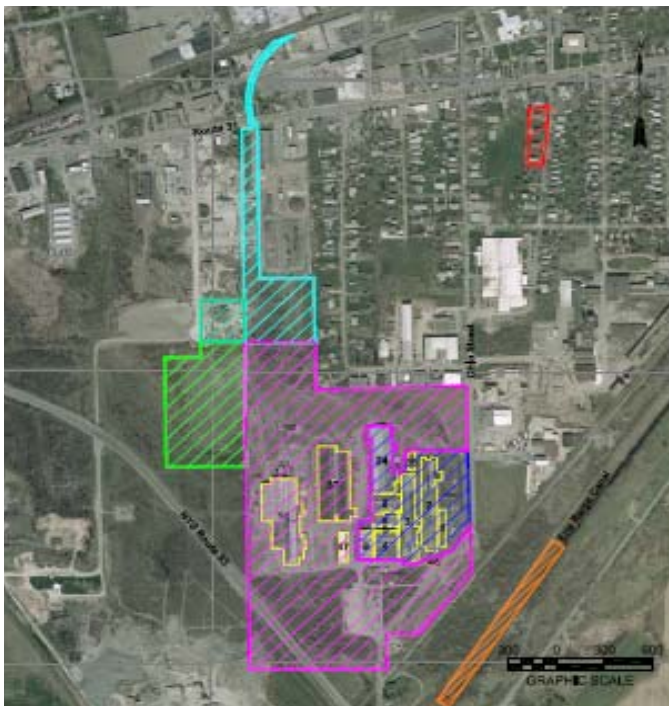


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## Investigative Area

Field sampling activities completed in December 2007 covered over 70-acres and included abandoned buildings, railroad right-of-ways, an inactive landfill, a portion of the Erie Barge Canal, and adjacent industrial, commercial and residential properties.



## Investigative Areas

-  Guterl Buildings
-  IA01 Bldg. Surfaces and Interiors and IA02 Bldg. Exteriors
-  IA03 Landfill Area
-  IA04 NCIDA Property
-  IA05 Railroad Right-of-Way
-  IA06 Off-site Northeast Properties (No RI work required)
-  IA09 Erie Canal Southeast of Site
-  IA10 Lot 7.1

Note: IA07 Groundwater and  
IA 08 Site Utilities includes IA01- IA05 & IA10



**View of excised property from Ohio Street**



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### ***After the Remedial Investigation Report***

USACE performs work in accordance with Federal laws under the framework of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) of 1980, as amended. The CERCLA process consists of a series of steps and requires that the public be informed and involved in the decision-making process.

The Remedial Investigation Report scheduled for completion in 2009 will determine if contaminants of concern exceed regulatory requirements and/or risk based criteria. If so, then remedial action may be warranted. If remedial action is warranted, then the following steps may be required:

- **Feasibility Study** - A feasibility study may be conducted to identify and evaluate various clean up technologies that could be used to remediate the site if required. A Feasibility Study Report could potentially be available in 2010.
- **Proposed Plan** - A public document that will identify the preferred alternative. A minimum 30-day public review period is required, however the review period may be extended if warranted. A public meeting is held during the review period. A Proposed Plan could potentially be available in 2011.
- **Record of Decision** - A Record of Decision (ROD) is prepared following consideration of all public comments and is the basis for selecting the remedy. The ROD document will include a formal responsiveness summary to address all public comments received. A Record of Decision could potentially be available in 2011.
- **Remedial Design**: A engineering phase required to implement the selected plan. Development of detailed remedial action plans are a normal part of this phase. Remedial Design could potentially be completed in 2012.
- **Remedial Action**: Includes implementation of the selected alternative required to meet the corrective action goals specified in the Record of Decision. Remedial Action could potentially be initiated in 2012 and completed in 2015.

Potential availability dates for all phases of work are dependent on project funding.



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### ***Administrative Record File***

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers maintains an Administrative Record File which contains documents that will form the basis for the selection of response actions at the Guterl Steel Site.

We maintain two locations listed below for the convenience of the public. If you would like to review the file at the public library, please call ahead to check on their operating hours. If you would like to visit the USACE office, please call ahead for an appointment.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
1776 Niagara Street  
Buffalo, New York 14207  
(716) 879-4156

Lockport Public Library  
23 East Avenue  
Lockport, New York 14095  
(716) 433-5935

### ***Contact us for more information***

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has developed a specific mailing list for the Guterl Steel Site to inform those who have expressed interest in progress and new developments as they occur. If you would like to be included on, or removed from, our mailing list, please let us know.

A toll-free public access number exists to answer any questions pertaining to the project. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to call us at: 1-800-833-6390.

A public website is maintained to provide information on project activities. Please feel free to visit our website at: [www.lrb.usace.army.mil/fusrap](http://www.lrb.usace.army.mil/fusrap) to learn more about our sites.

Electronic mail can be sent to us at: [fusrap@usace.army.mil](mailto:fusrap@usace.army.mil)

We appreciate public involvement. If you have any questions or suggestions, please let us know. You can write to us at:

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