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**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Baltimore District**

**Remedial Design for Interim Removal Actions
Operable Units 1 and 2
Former Lake Ontario Ordnance Works
Lewiston and Porter
Niagara County, New York**

Community Relations Plan

FINAL

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Prepared for:

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Baltimore District

**PRELIMINARY REMEDIAL DESIGN INVESTIGATION
LAKE ONTARIO ORDNANCE WORKS (LOOW)
TOWNS OF LEWISTON AND PORTER
NIAGARA COUNTY, NEW YORK
COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN**

FINAL

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SECTION 1

INTRODUCTION

This Community Relations Plan (CRP) outlines the community relations activities to be conducted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) during the Remedial Design and related Remedial Design investigations at the former Lake Ontario Ordnance Works (LOOW) site located in the towns of Lewiston and Porter, Niagara County, New York.

1.1 SITE HISTORY

The LOOW site is located on CWM Chemical Services, Inc., and Somerset Group properties straddling the boundary between the towns of Lewiston and Porter in Niagara County, New York. The site was initially developed in the late 1930s and early 1940s by the Department of the Army. The LOOW was initially used for the manufacture of trinitrotoluene (TNT) and later for various uses by a variety of governmental agencies including the Air Force and Navy and their contractors.

1.2 COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN OBJECTIVES

The CRP provides the necessary actions and policies to be implemented by USACE. The objectives of the plan include the following:

- To provide information needed to educate the community concerning the Remedial Design objectives for the LOOW site.
- To promote effective communication between USACE and local government officials so that the local officials are kept aware of progress and plans at the LOOW site.
- To develop effective communication between USACE and the community and to keep the community informed of the status and results of project activities.
- To establish effective communication between USACE and the media and to provide media representatives with accurate information on the status of the project and the ongoing activities.

- To solicit opinions from the community, public officials, and responsible agencies relative to the remedial action being considered and to provide opportunities for the community to comment on remedial alternatives.
- To provide a point of contact to whom the public and agencies can express concerns and submit suggestions for distributing information regarding the proposed project.
- To provide a point of contact for individuals within the public sector who may have information and/or knowledge of site background and previous activities.

SECTION 2

COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN

The major focus of the CRP is to educate the community in regard to the purpose and scope of the Remedial Design. In order to attain this goal and the CRP objectives identified above, several community relations techniques will be used. Included are public meetings, a community information repository, and public contact points.

USACE will conduct a public availability session with public officials and community at the completion of the 90% design. A meeting is anticipated to be held at the Town of Porter Town Hall located at 3265 Creek Road. Reservations will be made through Mr. Thomas Beachy. During the meeting, USACE will provide Remedial Design plans and investigation results and solicit community concerns in regard to project activities and direction.

In addition to public meetings, USACE will continue to maintain a community information repository. The current repository is located at the Lewiston Public Library, 308 South 8th Street, Lewiston, NY 14092.

The repository will be for use by all community members. The repository will contain pertinent project information presented and discussed during the public meetings. Project progress reports, fact sheets, and the CRP document will also be available.

Methods by which the public can contact USACE, either in writing or by telephone, will be listed at the repository. All written comments will be directed to the USACE, Baltimore District office. The telephone number of the Public Relations Officer of the Baltimore District office will be listed. The Baltimore District office will be designated as the primary contact point for the community. The Baltimore District office will serve as an information clearinghouse and will handle information inquiries.

SECTION 3
SCHEDULE OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS ACTIVITIES

The following is a tentative schedule for community relations activities relating to the LOOW Remedial Design. Each scheduled event is closely related to technical progress throughout the project. Activities USACE proposes include the following:

- Issue a press release regarding the Remedial Design plans for the site, the location of the information repository, and the telephone numbers and addresses of the contact points.
- Issue fact sheets to provide information on the Remedial Design.
- Conduct a public availability session to present to the public plans for the Remedial Design.

The dates and locations of these activities will be scheduled and announced by USACE.

SECTION 4
COMMUNITY RELATIONS CONTACT

All community relations activities will be planned and conducted by the USACE, Baltimore District office. These activities will be under the direction of the designated USACE Community Relations Officer. All inquiries on the project from any groups, businesses, governmental agencies, or the media should be directed to the USACE, Baltimore District Project Manager. USACE, Baltimore District will use the monthly reports and other documents prepared by Acres under subcontract with Roy F. Weston, Inc. (WESTON®) as the basis for the community relations release. Acres, under subcontract with WESTON, will maintain a scrapbook of news clippings. USACE will coordinate all community relations activities with the CWM Public Relations Officer. Included will be the development of the distribution list for all project-related releases of information and data.