

March 04

**Former Linde Site, Building 14
Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP)
Frequently Asked Questions**

1. Who is the lead agency for cleanup of radiological contamination at the former Linde site?

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is the lead Federal agency in addressing radiological contamination at the Linde Site and for FUSRAP.

2. What has the Corps accomplished, so far, in cleaning up the site?

We have successfully engineered the demolition of five buildings on the Linde site and removed over 115,000 tons of soil with no significant releases measured.

3. What specific air quality and monitoring controls are in place?

Since 1999, we have continually monitored air and the environment surrounding the site. We have deployed eleven perimeter air-sampling stations (including one located on the roof of the Holmes Elementary School) and twenty-four environmental dosimeters. Data generated by this monitoring confirms that there has never been any elevated readings of concern. Our data is available for general viewing on our public website (<http://www.lrb.usace.army.mil/fusrap/linde/lind-ra.htm>).

4. What was Building 14 used for?

Building 14 was used as a laboratory and pilot plant for studies on uranium separation during Manhattan Engineering District (MED) activities. Surveys conducted in 1988 and 1989 found elevated levels of fixed contamination in the first floor and in the staircase between the first and second floor. As a result, additional decontamination work was performed by the Department of Energy in 1996 and completed by the Corps of Engineers in 1998. Building 14 is an operable unit at Linde that is being investigated separately by the Corps of Engineers, under FUSRAP.

5. Are the workers in Building 14 safe?

The Corps of Engineers has performed extensive evaluations of the building that conclude that under current use conditions, there is not an unacceptable health risk to workers in the building.

6. If the building is safe, why are you planning to demolish it?

We have identified residual radiological contamination that exceeds regulatory standards in inaccessible areas such as beneath floors, under load bearing walls, and in drainpipes. We considered land use controls for at least 200 years, considered the costs and certainty

associated with further decontamination efforts, and concluded that demolition and removal provides the greatest degree of certainty.

7. What will the Corps of Engineers do to ensure that there are not any unsafe releases of radioactivity to the public during the demolition of Building 14?

- Before any remedial action begins, engineering and asbestos surveys must be performed. We will prepare detailed work plans that will describe strict requirements with each phase of work. Workplans include a Quality Control Plan, Site Operation Plan, Demolition Plan, Site Safety and Health Plan, Sampling and Analysis Plan, Final Status Survey Plan, Waste Management Plan, Transportation and Disposal Plan and others that may be needed.
- We will require air monitoring, sampling, testing and analysis to be performed during our field activities.
- We will utilize proven demolition and engineering controls such as dust and runoff controls to ensure there are no unsafe releases.
- We will continue to utilize the eleven air sampling stations and twenty-four environmental dosimeters including one located on the roof of the Holmes Elementary School.
- We will supervise all actions to insure strict compliance of our requirements.

8. How can I find out more information about the Former Linde Site?

The Corps of Engineers welcomes questions from citizens regarding the Former Linde Site or any other FUSRAP site. Questions may be addressed to: Public Affairs Office, Buffalo District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 1776 Niagara Street, Buffalo, NY 14207, telephone toll-free at 1-800-833-6390. You can also email us at fusrap@usace.army.mil.

The Administrative Record File is another invaluable resource for information on the Former Linde Site. The file contains a collection of documents that form the basis for the decisions made during the environmental restoration of the site. The Administrative Record File is located at the following locations:

Buffalo District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
1776 Niagara Street
Buffalo, NY 14207-3199

Tonawanda Public Library
333 Main Street
Tonawanda, NY 14150

Please call ahead to ensure facilities are open.