



Niagara Falls Storage Site

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Buffalo District

Building Strong®

Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP)

June 2010

Development of Radon Assessment Technical Memorandum

Purpose

The purpose of this fact sheet is to announce that the US Army Corps of Engineers will be developing a Radon Assessment Technical Memorandum as part of their efforts in conducting the Feasibility Study (FS) for the Niagara Falls Storage Site (NFSS). The FS is the study that will evaluate technologies that can be used to remediate the site. The Radon Assessment Technical Memorandum will predict levels of radon emissions under various scenarios as outlined in the “Radon Assessment Technical Memorandum Objective” section, below. By release of this Fact Sheet, the Corps is soliciting input from the public on the objective of the radon assessment so that the Corps can address public concerns during the development and finalization of the technical memorandum. The Corps is currently scheduled to have the Radon Assessment Technical Memorandum completed and available to the public in the spring of 2011.



NFSS: Interim Waste Containment Structure

Project Background

The NFSS is a 191-acre federal property containing a 10-acre interim waste containment structure (IWCS). The IWCS holds radioactive residues and wastes brought to the site by the Manhattan Engineering District (MED) and the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) during the 1940s and 1950s.

The Corps is the lead federal agency addressing environmental issues at the site under the authority of the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP) and in accordance with the provisions of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). As previously announced, the Corps has begun transitioning into the FS phase under CERCLA. The Corps indicated that our approach was to develop a number of technical memoranda that will be made available to the public prior to the development and release of the FS. In this manner, the public will be given the opportunity for review and comment as we progress through the development of the FS. The Radon Assessment Technical Memorandum is the first of the various technical memoranda to be developed.

Radon Assessment Technical Memorandum Objective

The objective of this technical memorandum will be to predict potential radon levels across the NFSS including the IWCS under various scenarios and then compare them to federal radon standards and guidelines to assess potential health impacts from human exposures. The primary focus of this technical memorandum will be the estimation of radon levels emanating from residues currently stored in the IWCS under various scenarios.

The various scenarios associated with the IWCS that will be assessed and incorporated into the technical memorandum include the following:

- Removal of the entire contents of the IWCS
- Removal of the K-65 residues
- Removal of all residues (includes the K-65, F-32, L-50, and L-30 residues) excluding the R-10 Pile
- IWCS damage due to heavy equipment (both with and without corrective actions associated with stopping further radon releases)
- Earthquake damage (both with and without corrective actions associated with stopping further radon releases)
- Drilling into the residues (both with and without corrective actions associated with stopping further radon releases)
- Burrowing animal (both with and without corrective actions associated with stopping further radon releases)

Public Input Regarding the Technical Memorandum

The Corps appreciates input from the public regarding the objective of this specific technical memorandum. Input should be provided to the Corps by July 23, 2010, to allow the Corps to consider the input while developing and finalizing the technical memorandum. The final technical memorandum will also be released for public input. Responses to public comments on each technical memorandum and fact sheet will be made available on the project website. Public comments received will be considered during the development of the Feasibility Study for the IWCS. Input can be sent via e-mail to fusrap@usace.army.mil (please be sure to note "Radon Assessment Technical Memorandum" in the subject of the e mail) or mail your comments to the FUSRAP Team at the address noted below.

Administrative Record File

The Administrative Record File for the NFSS FUSRAP Site contains the Remedial Investigation Report, Baseline Risk Assessment, Groundwater Flow and Contaminant Transport Modeling and other CERCLA-related documentation for the NFSS. Reports and documents in the Administrative Record may be viewed at the following locations:

US Army Corps of Engineers
1776 Niagara Street
Buffalo, New York 14207 (by appointment only)

Town of Lewiston Public Library
305 South 8th Street
Lewiston, NY 14092

Youngstown Free Library
240 Lockport Street
Youngstown, NY 14174

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS – BUFFALO DISTRICT FUSRAP TEAM

1776 NIAGARA STREET, BUFFALO, N.Y. 14207

Phone: 800-833-6390 (Option 4)

Email: fusrap@usace.army.mil

Website: www.lrb.usace.army.mil/fusrap/nfss/index.htm