

Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program Niagara Falls Storage Site News from the Corps of Engineers

Sent Tue 8/10/2021 2:54 PM

Hello from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Buffalo District:

Each summer 180 activated charcoal canisters are placed on top of the Interim Waste Containment Structure (IWCS) at the Niagara Falls Storage Site (NFSS) for a 24-hour exposure period. The activated charcoal in the canisters adsorbs the radon gas coming from the IWCS. After 24 hours has passed, the canisters are sealed and sent to a lab to analyze for radon concentrations. The results from all canisters are averaged and compared against the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency site-wide compliance criterion for radon emissions, and the results of the evaluation are published annually to support the environmental surveillance program for the site. Airborne emissions of other sitewide radionuclides are modeled from the remainder of the site. The results for the 2020 National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) report are compliant with regulatory criteria and demonstrate the effectiveness of the IWCS design and construction in containing radon gas.

The 2020 NESHAP report for Niagara Falls Storage Site is available on the project website at: <https://www.lrb.usace.army.mil/Missions/HTRW/FUSRAP/Niagara-Falls-Storage-Site/> in the Reports - Site-Wide Environmental Monitoring Documents subsection. A fact sheet regarding the radon flux monitoring is available in the Fact Sheets/FAQs – Environmental Monitoring Fact Sheets subsection of the project website.

Our current schedule indicates late September for award of the architect-engineer contract to design the removal of the IWCS and the cleanup of the NFSS. Once the base contract is awarded, we will issue individual task orders for the designer to complete specific services and products. The first task order, which is scheduled to be awarded in fall 2021, is under development now.

If you know someone that is interested in receiving updates regarding our progress at the site, please ask them to email fusrap@usace.army.mil to be added to our email distribution list.