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U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
NIAGARA FALLS STORAGE SITE
PROPOSED PLAN PUBLIC MEETING

Wednesday, October 21st, 2020
7:00 PM

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
1776 Niagara Street
Buffalo, New York 14207

APPEARANCES:

- ██████████ ██████████, Outreach Specialist
- ██████████ ████████████████████, Chief, Special Projects Branch
- ██████████ ██████████, Niagara Falls Storage Site Project Manager
- ██████████ ██████████, Environmental Project Management Team

MEETING REPORTER: ██████████ ██████████ ██████████

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P U B L I C C O M M E N T S

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1 ██████████ ██████████: Good evening everyone.
2 This meeting is being recorded. A court
3 recorder is also on the line to prepare an
4 official transcript of the meeting. Please
5 keep your phones on mute during the
6 presentation portion of this meeting. During
7 the public comment portion of the meeting, you
8 will be called in the order that you signed up
9 to speak.

10 I will now introduce ██████████ ██████████ ██████████,
11 Chief of the Special Projects Branch at the
12 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Buffalo District.

13 ██████████ ██████████: Good evening everyone.
14 My name is ██████████ ██████████ from the U.S. Army
15 Corps of Engineers Buffalo District and on
16 behalf of ██████████ ██████████ ██████████ ██████████,
17 Commander of the Buffalo District, welcome and
18 thank you for attending our virtual public
19 meeting this evening. I have a few brief
20 opening remarks before Jeff Rowley, our
21 Project Manager, leads us through tonight's
22 discussion.

23 ██████████ ██████████ ██████████ regrets not being

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1 able to meet you in person tonight. He was
2 unable to attend due to a training event with
3 other district commanders in Washington.

4 ██████████ ██████████ ██████████ took command in June
5 of this year and is eager to visit with
6 community members at all our project sites. I
7 would like to take this time to thank those
8 participants from the Tuscarora Nation and the
9 federal, state, and local elected officials
10 and Agency representatives who are joining us
11 tonight.

12 The Buffalo District serves the people in
13 the watersheds of the lower Great Lakes from
14 Massena, New York, in the east to the Indiana
15 state line in the west, and we have done so
16 since 1857. We have many projects within this
17 area of responsibility, but this one is close
18 to home.

19 Most of our nearly 300 district employees
20 live in this community, and we deeply care
21 about serving and safeguarding our neighbors
22 and fellow community members. As we
23 investigate and remediate sites, like the

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1 Niagara Falls Storage Site and others sites in
2 Western New York, our number one priority and
3 decisionmaking criteria is protecting human
4 health and the environment.

5 Tonight's agenda is on this slide. We are
6 here tonight to discuss the Niagara Falls
7 Storage Site which is being addressed under
8 the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action
9 Program, or FUSRAP. Our priority when
10 implementing the program is to ensure we are
11 protective of human health and the
12 environment. We implement FUSRAP following
13 the established federal law for environmental
14 cleanup - the Comprehensive Environmental
15 Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, or
16 CERCLA.

17 The CERCLA process requires that we
18 conduct a public meeting to receive your
19 comments on our preferred alternative, which
20 is the most important part of tonight's public
21 meeting. We are here tonight to receive your
22 comments.

23 To frame tonight's discussion I will

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1 reinforce a recent major milestone at the
2 site. In March 2019 the Corps of Engineers
3 signed a record of decision to completely
4 remove and ship out of state for permanent
5 disposal the entire Interim Waste Containment
6 Structure.

7 Removing the Interim Waste Containment
8 Structure permanently removes 99% of the
9 radioactivity from the site and community.
10 Additionally, the high activity residues
11 buried inside the Interim Waste Containment
12 Structure represent only 1% of the total
13 material to be removed from the site.

14 Since we signed the record of decision, we
15 have made good progress in the development and
16 procurement of the design contract to perform
17 the detailed engineering to remediate the
18 site. We expect to award this design contract
19 in 2021 and our efforts have not been delayed
20 or impacted by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

21 Tonight our focus is on selecting a remedy
22 for the remainder of the site outside of the
23 Interim Waste Containment Structure.

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1 Specifically, the proposed plan and preferred
2 alternative for what are called the Balance of
3 Plant and Groundwater Operable Units.
4 Releasing this proposed plan brings us one
5 step closer to the site's remediation.

6 Our preferred alternative, which is shown
7 on this slide, proposes a remedy for
8 addressing contaminated soils, buildings and
9 building foundations, utilities, roads and
10 roadbeds, and contaminated groundwater. The
11 Corps' preferred alternative will be
12 protective of human health and the
13 environment, complies with applicable or
14 relevant and appropriate requirements, is
15 cost-effective and utilizes permanent
16 solutions that will preclude any future
17 environmental impacts.

18 Thank you again for being with us
19 virtually tonight and I appreciate your
20 willingness to participate virtually under our
21 current COVID-19 restrictions. This is our
22 first virtual public meeting and we think we
23 have worked out some minor kinks, but please

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1 bear with us if we experience any technical
2 difficulties.

3 I will now turn this meeting over to Mr.
4 [REDACTED], Niagara Falls Storage Site
5 Project Manager, to provide an update on the
6 progress we have made in planning for the
7 cleanup of the site and to talk about our
8 preferred alternative for the site's Balance
9 of Plant and Groundwater Operable Units.

10 [REDACTED]: Thanks, [REDACTED] All right.
11 We tried to keep our use of acronyms to a
12 minimum in this presentation. Some of our
13 more frequently used acronyms in regard to
14 Niagara Falls Storage Site are on this slide.
15 We will explain these terms as we come across
16 them in the presentation.

17 Further information about these terms is
18 available in the fact sheets on the project
19 website. The web address will be on the final
20 slide of the presentation.

21 Next we will talk about the FUSRAP
22 Objectives. The work we are doing at Niagara
23 Falls Storage Site is authorized under the

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1 Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action
2 Program or FUSRAP. The program was initiated
3 in 1974 to identify, investigate, and, if
4 necessary, clean up or control sites
5 throughout the United States contaminated as a
6 result of Manhattan Engineer District or early
7 Atomic Energy Commission activities. The
8 objectives for FUSRAP are identified on this
9 slide.

10 Our number one priority while performing
11 activities at the site is the protection of
12 human health and the environment and the
13 safety of the community, and site workers
14 during the cleanup.

15 Niagara Falls Storage Site is located in
16 Lewiston, New York, situated within what was
17 the Lake Ontario Ordnance Works. The Lake
18 Ontario Ordnance Works was a trinitrotoluene,
19 or TNT, facility that came online in the early
20 1940's; it was decommissioned in 1943.

21 The United States had a surplus of TNT
22 during the World War II effort, so the country
23 no longer needed the operation of that

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1 facility. The Atomic Energy program started
2 in the same timeframe, and residues and waste
3 materials being generated as a result of their
4 work found its way to Niagara Falls Storage
5 Site where they were stored for a considerable
6 length of time.

7 If you focus on the right-hand side of
8 your screen, you can see the smaller Niagara
9 Falls Storage Site. During the early 1980s,
10 the Department of Energy consolidated the
11 contaminated materials at the site and its
12 vicinity properties into the Interim Waste
13 Containment Structure or IWCS, which is the
14 dark blue area. The site is currently owned
15 by the federal government.

16 The Buffalo District maintains the site
17 and performs environmental surveillance to
18 ensure the protectiveness of the Interim Waste
19 Containment Structure.

20 For purposes of the feasibility study, the
21 site was divided into three operable units or
22 OUs. The Interim Waste Containment Structure
23 OU is the engineered landfill within the diked

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1 area of the NFSS and applies to all of the
2 material within the IWCS. We have a record of
3 decision for the IWCS. Tonight though, we
4 will focus on the remaining operable units.
5 The Balance of Plant or BOP OU includes all of
6 the material at the NFSS not in the IWCS.
7 This includes soils, buildings and building
8 foundations, utilities, roads, and roadbeds.
9 The Groundwater OU refers to contaminated
10 groundwater.

11 We follow the processes outlined in the
12 Comprehensive Environmental Response,
13 Compensation, and Liability Act, or CERCLA, as
14 amended, and the National Oil and Hazardous
15 Substances Pollution Contingency Plan. That
16 process is outlined on the screen. Sorry
17 about that. Little technical glitch right
18 there.

19 This slide shows where the Niagara Falls
20 Storage Site Operable Units are in the CERCLA
21 process. The record of decision for the
22 Interim Waste Containment Structure was signed
23 in March 2019, with complete removal of the

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1 contents of the IWCS as the selected remedy.

2

3 Last fall we released the feasibility
4 study for the Balance of Plant and Groundwater
5 Operable Units. Tonight we will be discussing
6 the proposed plan for those operable units
7 And describing the Corps' preferred
8 alternative to mitigate risks presented by
9 small areas of remaining contamination on the
10 site.

11 The site-wide remedial action phase is
12 also outlined on the right of this slide.
13 During fiscal year 2021, we will award an
14 architect-engineer services remedial design
15 and construction oversight contract and begin
16 the work to ultimately clean up the site.

17 Tonight, after the presentation we will
18 receive your comments on the proposed plan.
19 The comment period ends on December 5, 2020,
20 so please provide your comments tonight. You
21 can e-mail fusrap@usace.army.mil or mail them
22 to the District. The District's e-mail and
23 mailing address will be provided at the end of

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1 the presentation.

2 The preferred alternative may be modified
3 based on any new information acquired during
4 the designated public comment
5 Period. Responses to comments received will
6 be provided in the record of decision, which
7 will identify the selected remedy to be
8 implemented.

9 We discussed the feasibility study and
10 went over the remedial alternatives with you
11 during our information session last fall. The
12 presentation and posters from that meeting are
13 available on the project website. The
14 following slides give an overview of what was
15 covered during that meeting.

16 The Niagara Falls Storage Site is
17 currently zoned for light industrial use,
18 which is intended as a transition zone between
19 residential and heavy industrial areas. The
20 land uses for the properties immediately
21 surrounding the site are either heavy
22 industrial or industrial. Light industrial
23 use includes manufacturing, processing, and

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1 wholesale/warehousing.

2 At Niagara Falls Storage Site with an
3 industrial land use, the construction worker
4 is the type of worker with the greatest
5 potential exposure to contaminated media.
6 Preliminary remediation goals or preliminary
7 cleanup goals were developed based on risks to
8 the construction worker, and would be
9 considered protective for all types of worker
10 exposure.

11 This graphic shows the construction
12 worker's potential exposure pathways when
13 working at the site in its current conditions.
14 The site media are soil, groundwater, building
15 foundations, and road bedding. These site
16 media exhibit radionuclides of concern and/or
17 chemicals of concern at levels that are
18 greater than the preliminary remediation goals
19 for the construction worker.

20 The light purple areas indicate areas of
21 contaminated media with concentrations above
22 Preliminary remediation goals that warrant
23 cleanup. A more detailed map of the areas

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1 with contamination is available in the fact
2 sheet on the project website.

3 Radionuclides of concern for which
4 preliminary remediation goals were developed
5 for soil, Building 433, and the foundations of
6 former Buildings 430 and 431 and 432 are:
7 Uranium-238, thorium-230, and radium-226. The
8 preliminary remediation goals for these
9 radionuclides of concern also cover their
10 long-lived daughter products.

11 Chemicals of concern for which preliminary
12 remediation goals were developed are:
13 Volatile organic compounds in soil and
14 groundwater, polychlorinated biphenyls in
15 pipeline sediments, water in drains for
16 Building 401 and the concrete foundation of
17 Building 401; and polycyclic aromatic
18 hydrocarbons in surface and near surface soil
19 and building foundations.

20 As we go further through this slide deck,
21 I want to mention that we will be talking
22 about these buildings again; 430, 401, 431,
23 432 and 433 so just kind of keep this figure

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1 in mind when we go through the alternatives.

2 Based on the information gathered from
3 numerous investigations, monitoring events,
4 and studies of the site, the next couple of
5 slides discuss the impacted media at the site.

6 There is an estimated 5,400 cubic yards of
7 impacted soil and road bedding, and there is a
8 trench along the side of the Building 431 and
9 432 foundations that is estimated to contain
10 1,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil and
11 concrete.

12 The Building 401 foundation and utilities
13 drain system are estimated to contain 727
14 cubic yards of impacted material. As shown in
15 the photo, the building drains in former
16 Building 401 have been plugged.

17 Building 433 and the foundations of former
18 Buildings 430, 431 and 432 are estimated to
19 contain 1,482 cubic yards of contaminated
20 material. The estimated volume of impacted
21 site groundwater is 3,300 gallons.

22 Next we will discuss the process for
23 evaluating the alternatives developed in the

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1 feasibility study.

2 The feasibility study identifies,
3 develops, and evaluates remedial alternatives,
4 analyzing in detail each remedial alternative
5 for its, one, overall protection of human
6 health and the environment, two, compliance
7 with applicable or relevant and appropriate
8 requirements; three, long-term effectiveness
9 and permanence; four, reduction of toxicity,
10 mobility, or volume through treatment; five,
11 short-term effectiveness; six,
12 implementability and the final is cost.

13 This slide identifies the applicable or
14 relevant and appropriate requirements that all
15 of the developed alternatives had to meet.
16 Note that no state or federally promulgated
17 chemical-specific regulations were identified
18 that were either applicable, or relevant and
19 appropriate for protection of construction
20 worker exposure to volatile organic
21 compounds-contaminated soil and groundwater
22 and to PCBs in Building 401 utility water.

23 Therefore, the Corps relied on the CERCLA

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1 baseline risk assessment it conducted for the
2 site to calculate risk-based cleanup goals for
3 these contaminants that are protective of the
4 construction worker exposure to groundwater
5 and utility water.

6 These are the alternatives outlined in the
7 feasibility study. Since Alternative 1 is No
8 Action and it is not protective of human
9 health and the environment and does not meet
10 the applicable or relevant and appropriate
11 requirements, the alternative is removed from
12 consideration and is used only for comparison
13 purposes.

14 The remaining alternatives are discussed
15 on the next few slides. For Alternatives 2
16 through 5, following removal of all materials
17 exceeding the feasibility study preliminary
18 remediation goals, the excavated areas would
19 be backfilled, the site would be restored and
20 would be suitable for industrial land use.

21 Once again, Alternative 3 is our preferred
22 alternative.

23 In Alternative 2 all impacted soil,

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1 contaminated building foundations, and the
2 Building 401 foundation and impacted drains
3 that exceed the preliminary remediation goals
4 would be removed and disposed at a permitted
5 off-site facility. Volatile organic
6 compound-contaminated soil and groundwater in
7 the plume in the north area of the site would
8 be removed and backfilled. Prior to
9 backfilling, an amendment would be added to
10 promote degradation of residual,
11 dissolved-phase impacts. An estimated 8,600
12 cubic yards of in situ contaminated soil and
13 concrete including buildings and building
14 foundations, and 3,300 gallons of impacted
15 groundwater would be excavated/recovered for
16 off-site disposal under Alternative 2.

17 Alternative 3, is the same as Alternative
18 2 except in this alternative, Building 433 and
19 the foundations of former Buildings 430,
20 431/432 would be left in place, and would be
21 decontaminated by scarification to remove the
22 risk associated with these media. An
23 estimated 7,000 cubic yards of in situ

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1 contaminated soil and Building 401 foundation
2 concrete, and 3,000 gallons of impacted
3 groundwater would be excavated/recovered for
4 off-site disposal under Alternative 3. A
5 nominal amount of impacted concrete dust from
6 scarification, approximately 80 cubic yards,
7 would also require disposal.

8 Alternative 4 is similar to Alternative 3
9 in that soil and road bedding that exceeds the
10 feasibility study preliminary remediation
11 goals and the Building 401 foundation and
12 drains will be removed. Building 433 and
13 Building 430, 431 and 432 foundations would be
14 left in place, but would be decontaminated
15 through that scarification to remove the risk
16 associated with these media.

17 In this alternative the volatile organic
18 compound contaminated soil and groundwater in
19 the north portion of the site would be treated
20 via in situ thermal treatment methods. An
21 estimated 3,700 cubic yards of in situ
22 contaminated soil, and Building 401 foundation
23 concrete would be excavated for off-site

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1 disposal under Alternative 4. This total does
2 not include the volatile organic compound
3 plume soil. A nominal amount of impacted
4 concrete dust from scarification,
5 approximately 80 cubic yards again, would also
6 require disposal.

7 There is a poster on our website that
8 shows you a little bit more of this in situ
9 treatment and explanation for it.

10 Finally, Alternative 5. It is similar to
11 Alternative 3 in that soil and road bedding
12 that exceeds the feasibility study preliminary
13 remediation goals and the Building 401
14 foundation and drains will be removed. Once
15 again, Building 433 and the foundations of
16 Building 430, 431 and 432 would be left in
17 place, but would be decontaminated by
18 scarification to remove the risk associated
19 with these media.

20 In this alternative the volatile organic
21 compound contaminated soil and groundwater in
22 the north portion of the site would be treated
23 via ex situ thermal treatment methods. Under

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1 Alternative 5 an estimated 3,700 cubic yards
2 of in situ contaminated soil, and Building 401
3 foundation concrete and approximately 3,300
4 gallons of impacted groundwater would be
5 excavated/recovered for off-site treatment and
6 disposal and an estimated 3,400 cubic yards of
7 VOC-impacted soil would be excavated for
8 on-site treatment. This total does not
9 include the volatile organic compound plume
10 soil. A nominal amount of impacted concrete
11 dust from scarification would also require
12 disposal.

13
14 (Technical difficulty interruption.)

15 (Off the record.)
16

17 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: We worked through a couple
18 of bugs, so we should be set. Everybody
19 should be seeing the Alternative 5 slide on
20 their screen, so we will get back at it.

21 All right. So, Alternative 5 is similar
22 to Alternative 3 in that soil and road bedding
23 that exceeds the feasibility study preliminary

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1 remediation goals and the Building 401
2 foundation and drains will be removed.
3 Building 433 and the foundations of Building
4 430, 431 and 432 would be left in place, but
5 would be decontaminated by scarification to
6 remove the risk associated with these media.

7 In this alternative the volatile organic
8 compound contaminated soil and groundwater in
9 the north area of the site would be treated
10 via ex situ thermal treatment methods.

11 Under Alternative 5, an estimated 3,700
12 cubic yards of in situ contaminated soil and
13 Building 401 foundation concrete and 3,300
14 gallons of impacted groundwater would be
15 excavated/recovered for off-site treatment and
16 disposal, and an estimated 3,400 cubic yards
17 of volatile organic-impacted soil would be
18 excavated for on-site treatment.

19 A nominal amount of impacted concrete dust
20 from scarification, approximately 80 cubic
21 yards, would also require disposal.

22 We also have a poster of this alternative
23 up on the website so you can see more about

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1 the ex situ treatment.

2 Each alternative in the feasibility study
3 is evaluated against the balancing criteria
4 for comparison purposes. This slide shows the
5 first four balancing criteria. You can see
6 that Alternatives 2 and 3 have the same
7 rankings and Alternatives 4 and 5 have the
8 same rankings. Alternative 3, removal with
9 building decontamination, is highlighted
10 because it is our preferred alternative.

11 A comparison of the cost estimates shows
12 that the alternatives range in cost from
13 approximately \$23 million to \$36 million and
14 the times to complete each alternative vary.
15 You can see from the analysis on the last
16 chart and this chart that Alternative 3
17 achieves the same level of protectiveness for
18 less money and in the same amount of time as
19 Alternative 2.

20 I am just going to pause right there for a
21 second, folks, and check the slides one last
22 time. Hold on one second, please.

23 (Off the record.)

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1 ██████████: All right. Once again,
2 sorry, folks. We are just working through
3 those kinks. I am going to go over this slide
4 again. We will be on Slide 29 and it is going
5 to talk about the comparative analysis for the
6 alternatives.

7 A comparison of the cost estimates shows
8 that the alternatives range in cost from
9 approximately \$23 million to \$36 million and
10 the times to complete each alternative vary.
11 You can see from the analysis on the last
12 chart and this chart that Alternative 3
13 achieves the same level of protectiveness for
14 less money and in the same amount of time as
15 Alternative 2.

16 Next we will talk about the preferred
17 alternative. To recap, Alternative 3 is the
18 preferred alternative outlined in the Balance
19 of Plant and Groundwater Operable Units
20 proposed plan. The Corps of Engineers expects
21 the preferred alternative to satisfy the
22 following statutory requirements of CERCLA
23 Section 121(b): One, be protective of human

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1 health and the environment; two, comply with
2 applicable or relevant and appropriate
3 requirements; three, be cost-effective; four,
4 utilize permanent solutions that will preclude
5 any future environmental impact.

6 Once again, Under Alternative 3, impacted
7 soil, road bedding, and groundwater are
8 removed; the Building 401 foundation and
9 utilities are removed; and Building 433 and
10 the foundations of Buildings 430, 431 and 432
11 are decontaminated by scarifying.

12 FUSRAP-related material that is removed
13 will be transported off-site for disposal at
14 an appropriately permitted or licensed
15 disposal facility. Following completion of
16 Alternative 3, the site would be remediated to
17 levels suitable for industrial use. This will
18 be both protective of construction workers and
19 industrial workers.

20 We will just go over that schedule again
21 that we provided earlier. Once the comment
22 period closes, we will consider the comments
23 received and develop a record of decision.

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1 The preferred alternative may be modified
2 based on any new information acquired during
3 the designated public comment period.

4 Responses to comments received will be
5 provided in the record of decision, which will
6 identify the selected remedy to be
7 implemented. This is scheduled to be released
8 in 2022.

9 During fiscal year 2021, we will award an
10 architect-engineer services remedial design
11 and construction oversight contract and begin
12 the work to ultimately clean up the site.

13 All right. Next we will go ahead and
14 receive comments. The slide up on the screen
15 outlines how we will proceed with taking the
16 comments.

17 The following operating principles will be
18 in place during the comment portion of the
19 meeting.

20 To receive your comments on the proposed
21 plan, we will be calling one person at a time
22 in the order that you signed up to comment.
23 Please state your name and affiliation or town

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1 of residence.

2 Please keep your phone line muted until
3 your name has been called.

4 Please keep the subject of your comments
5 to the proposed plan and limit your comment to
6 under three minutes.

7 Please indicate when you are finished with
8 your comment.

9 Questions placed in the chat box will be
10 responded to on the project website before the
11 end of the public comment period.

12 If you did not sign up early to provide
13 comments tonight and you would like to provide
14 a comment, please use the chat feature when
15 asked to do so to type in your name and
16 indicate that you would like to comment.

17 We will leave the meeting open for 15
18 minutes after the closing comments for those
19 that want to chat in questions or additional
20 comments.

21 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: Okay. Good evening
22 everyone. No one actually signed up to
23 comment. So in order for me to see the chat,

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1 the names, I have to stop sharing for a minute
2 my screen. So if anyone would like to provide
3 a comment on the proposed plan and the
4 preferred alternative, please put your name in
5 the box, in the chat box, so that I can call
6 your name. I am going to unmute all the
7 lines.

8 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: [REDACTED] [REDACTED] would like to
9 comment.

10 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: [REDACTED] would you please
11 state your name and unmute -- well, unmute
12 your mic, state your name and then state your
13 affiliation and then you can unmute your mic
14 and provide your comment. [REDACTED], you may still
15 be muted. Okay. [REDACTED] you can't push *6.

16 You are going to have to do the unmute
17 button, that circle on the bottom of your
18 screen. Perhaps if you can tell me the number
19 you are calling from, I will be able to find
20 you. I need the last two digits and I should
21 be able to unmute your mic.

22 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]: There we go. Can you hear
23 me now, [REDACTED]?

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1 ██████████: Yes, ██████████. Thank you.

2 ██████████: Okay. Just before I
3 comment, is there anyone from EPA
4 participating this evening?

5 ██████████: I can say that someone
6 from EPA has registered for the meeting. I
7 cannot tell because some people just called in
8 and they did not enter their names on the list
9 whether someone from EPA is on the line.

10 ██████████: Okay. Well, regardless, I
11 will just run through a couple of quick
12 comments. The proposed plan -- can I start
13 now, ██████████?

14 ██████████: ██████████, no. I need you to
15 state your name -- your full name and your
16 affiliation or your town of residence for the
17 court reporter's records.

18 ██████████: Okay. ██████████,
19 ██████████, resident of Lewiston, New York.
20 Can I start my comments now?

21 ██████████: Yes, ██████████. You may.

22 ██████████: Okay. The property
23 history starts in the proposed plan at 1944.

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1 The proposed plan should reflect the use of
2 the property before it was seized by the
3 federal government. The map on page 20 of the
4 proposed plan I think misleads agencies --
5 agency personnel, whose concurrence will be
6 required for this plan.

7 If it does not reflect the locations of
8 the residences and the schools and the walleye
9 hatchery, I think it is misleading to suggest
10 that there is a disposal facility to the north
11 because it has been closed for five years and
12 there is one operating to the east, but the
13 property uses to the west do not transition
14 through a commercial or park-like setting to
15 residences or schools.

16 And from that standpoint, the industrial
17 level cleanup standard and depending on what
18 is found in the buildings to determine whether
19 or not there would be any additional cost to
20 remove those is a significant issue.

21 We keep talking about the adequacy of the
22 health standards for construction workers, as
23 opposed to residents and even worthy property

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1 used for a park. I think that would concern
2 most people in the community. I also think it
3 is important to explain to the community how
4 the industrial level cleanup differs from the
5 other standards of cleanup.

6 While I don't think the community would
7 expect that the federal government would be
8 able to restore the property to the condition
9 in which it was before it was seized by the
10 federal government, certainly the community
11 ought to at least have the benefit of knowing
12 what the other standards are and what kind of
13 property uses that would provide as options to
14 the town, you know, 10 or 20 years down the
15 road. That is pretty important.

16 Last, but not least, the groundwater
17 issue, the DNAPL in the northwest section of
18 Niagara Falls Storage Site, I would encourage
19 the Army Corps groundwater people to consult
20 with EPA because there was a dispute about the
21 groundwater direction on the property adjacent
22 to the north of the Niagara Falls Storage Site
23 during the adjudicatory process for the CWM

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1 permit.

2 The EPA agreed with the experts for
3 Niagara County in the probability that the
4 lower aquifer was not traveling northwest, but
5 on the southern part of the CWM property was
6 traveling west, southwest.

7 So there are two concerns; one, that if
8 the Army Corps remediates the DNAPL, that it
9 won't show up again if it is migrating from
10 CWM and then of course, number two, whether or
11 not federal taxpayers should be bearing the
12 cost for historical contamination that was
13 from a private property operation and not the
14 federal operation. I think that is it.

15 I just want to reiterate how important it
16 would be for the Army Corps to discuss the
17 DNAPL evaluation, which is brand new because
18 in contrast to Modern and the Niagara Falls
19 Storage Site, there were wells missing on CWM
20 that have only been installed fairly recently
21 so there is not a lot of data.

22 But, to reiterate, the EPA and the experts
23 for Niagara County had a different opinion

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1 than DEC and CWM. So again, I would encourage
2 the Corps to talk directly to EPA about the
3 DNAPL on the site to the north and if a
4 potentially responsible party process is
5 called for, look for ways to get that done
6 without delaying the good progress that is
7 being made on BOP and the IWCS. That
8 concludes my comments. Thank you.

9 ██████████: Thank you, ██████████. Is there
10 anyone else that would like to chat their name
11 in the comment box to provide additional
12 comments?

13 Okay. One more time I am going to unmute
14 the lines just to try and see if there is
15 someone that does not have the ability to
16 unmute their mic to -- that wants to provide a
17 comment.

18 For those of you that are receiving
19 feedback on your line, if you move your phone
20 away from your computer so that they are not
21 so close and you turn down the sound on your
22 computer, it should get rid of the echo.

23 Okay. I am going to ask one last time is

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1 site. Also, I want you to know that this
2 presentation with the script is posted to the
3 website. There is a fact sheet about the
4 preferred alternative and the proposed plan on
5 our website and we will be posting the
6 transcript to the meeting once it is available
7 and if you send us any questions to the
8 fusrap@usace.army.mil e-mail address, we will
9 also be posting responses to those questions
10 up on the website.

11 So, with that, we are going to go back a
12 slide so that you can copy the address if you
13 need to and we are going to leave the meeting
14 open for the chat for the next 15 minutes in
15 case anybody wants to chat any additional
16 comment.

17 So it is currently -- we will be closing
18 the meeting at 8:15. The Project Delivery
19 Team will not be staying on the line to answer
20 any questions that come up in the chat, but we
21 will be copying the chat and we will be
22 responding to those questions online.

23 So, thank you everyone. I am going to now

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1 officially end the meeting, but leave the chat
2 open for 15 minutes. Thank you for
3 participating in our meeting tonight.

4

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(Meeting concluded at 7:58 p.m.)

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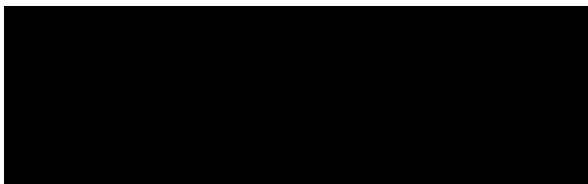
COUNTY OF ERIE)

I, [REDACTED], Notary Public, in and for the County of Erie, State of New York, do hereby certify:

That the public hearing was taken pursuant to notice at the time and place as herein set forth; that said public meeting was taken down by me and thereafter transcribed into typewriting, and I hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true and correct transcription of my shorthand notes so taken.

I further certify that I am neither counsel for nor related to any party to said action, nor in anyway interested in the outcome thereof.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed my seal on this 27th day of October, 2020.



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