

# Nuclear waste to leave town

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Radioactive waste and what to do about it were the main topics of discussion at Monday night's Town of Tonawanda board meeting.

Low-level radioactive waste left from the Manhattan Project of World War II will be shipped out of state by rail car.

A motion to approve a right-of-entry easement agreement between the Town and the Army Corps of Engineers at Ashland 1, Ashland 2 and Seaway Industrial remediation sites was passed by the board in a unanimous vote.

The waste will be loaded into rail cars at a facility to be built on town property on Fire Tower Drive adjacent to the Youngmann Memorial Highway.

Monday night's action by the board will give the Corps permission to acquire a parcel of land to construct a platform to move the contaminants. The project will begin this summer and take nearly two years to complete, at a total cost of approximately \$24 million dollars.

Supervisor Carl Calabrese introduced Col. Michael Conrad of the Corps of Engineers to explain the project.

Col. Conrad prefaced his remarks by noting that the plan was originally under the jurisdiction of the Department of Energy, and just recently switched to the Army Corps.

**"This is the first concrete step to a clean-up. This is a milestone" — Carl Calabrese**

"I will make sure the clean-up is done expeditiously," he said.

With the help of his associate, environmental engineer David Conboy, Col. Conrad explained that the waste will

Supervisor Calabrese said, "This is the first concrete step to a clean-up. This is a milestone."

In other Town Business, the board:

- Approved a hearing to consider amending a special use permit for additional sign square footage at 1430 Colvin Blvd.

- Agreed to hold hearings regarding improvements to the Colvin and Parker pump stations.

- Approved the payment of \$6,036.10 in claims as processed by Allied Claims Services, Inc.

- Approved several calls for bids from the Highway, Water Resource, Engineering and Police Departments.

- Supervisor Calabrese took a moment to commend his staff, after reporting that Moody's Investment Service had increased the Town's bond rating from A to A1.

"This will result in lower interest rates on bonds we have issued, saving tens of thousands of dollars" Calabrese said.