CANiT PUBLIC MEETING

TONAWANDA SITE -- GENERAL PROJECT DATA INFORMATION

1. **What is the Low Level Radioactive Waste Material stored in Tonawanda?**
Uranium ore was brought to Tonawanda in a successful effort to separate the uranium from the ore in which it was found. The separation effort occurred from 1942 and 1946. The separated uranium was shipped offsite for eventual use in the World War II effort to develop the atomic bomb. The residue that remained after separation was disposed of in Tonawanda. This residue includes uranium, radium, and thorium. Each of these elements occur in nature. The residual material was both in solid and liquid form. The radioactive liquid waste was released to the sanitary sewer, by deep well injection, and to the storm water drain system including Two Mile Creek. The solid low level radioactive waste is now located in four properties in Tonawanda.

2. **How much low level radioactive waste exists on the sites in the Town of Tonawanda?**

The total quantity of radiologically contaminated soils and waste is approximately 351,000 cubic yards. Once a remedial alternative has been selected, the volume of material that will be moved will range between 415,000 - 450,000 cubic yards.

3. **Where is the material currently being stored?**

There are four properties that contain radioactive contamination:

- The Linde property (61,600 cubic yards)*
- the Ashland 1 property (120,200 cubic yards)
- the Seaway property (117,000 cubic yards)
- the Ashland 2 property (52,100 cubic yards)

* Includes demolition waste from four buildings at Linde.

Together these four properties and adjacent areas of contamination are referred to as the Tonawanda site.

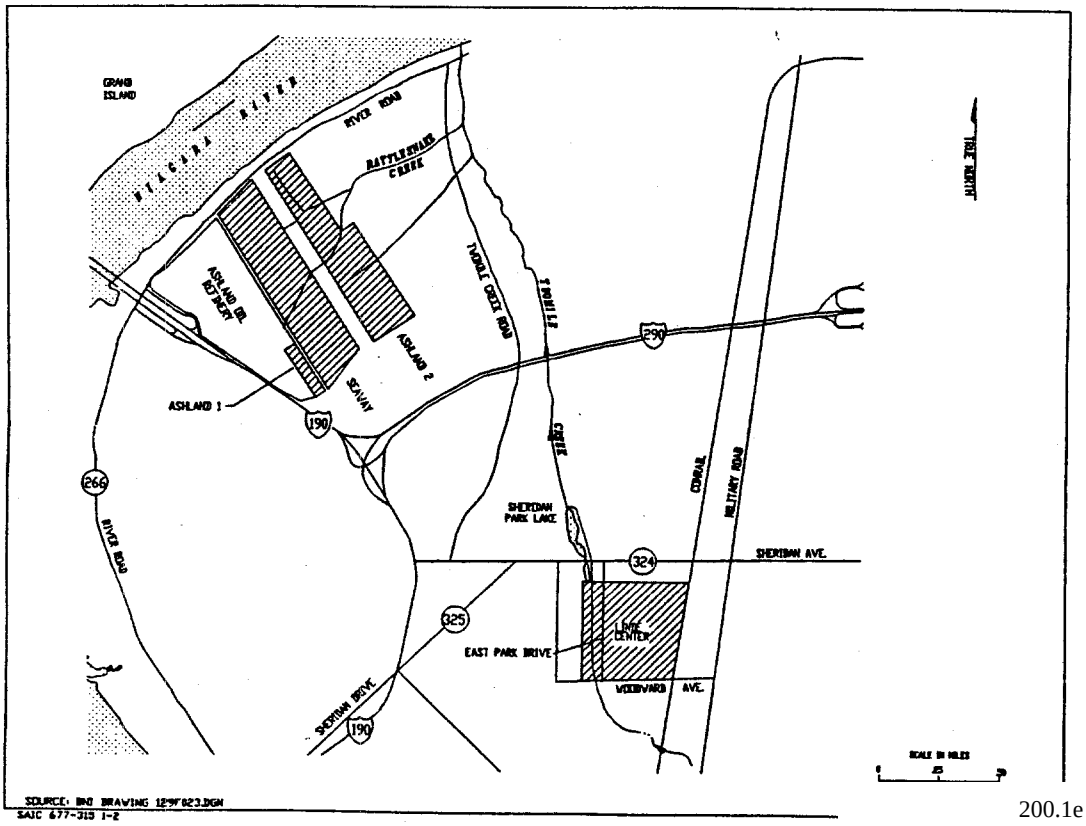

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Figure 1-2. Map of the Tonawanda Site Showing the Locations of Linde Cent Ashland 1, Seaway Industrial Park, and Ashland 2

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TONAWANDA SITE COST SUMMARY OF ALTERNATIVES

Alternative			Cost in Million $
#		Disposal	
1	No Action	No Action	$ 4
2	Complete Excavation with Offsite Disposal	New York (within 200 miles of Tonawanda)	$100
		East	$107
		West	$129
		Commercial	$235
		DOE (Hanford, Washington)	$302
3	Complete Excavation with Onsite Disposal	Onsite	$ 77
4	Partial Excavation with Offsite Disposal	New York (within 200 miles of Tonawanda)	$ 79
		East	$ 86
		West	$106
		Commercial	$201
		DOE (Hanford, Washington)	$262
5	Partial Excavation with Onsite Disposal	Onsite	$ 59
6	Containment with Institutional Controls	Onsite	$ 17

SOURCE: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR THE TONAWANDA SITE.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY'S (DOE) STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

The preferred alternative recommended by the DOE for the Tonawanda Site is Partial Excavation with Onsite Disposal (Alternative 5). An encapsulation cell would be designed containing contaminated soils that are accessible (ie. not under Building 30 at Linde or landfill material). The landfill cover will be inspected and the groundwater monitored, and the effectiveness of the overall system at the Tonawanda site will be reviewed at least every five years. Implementing this alternative will result in the permanent commitment of approximately 27 acres of land at the Tonawanda site for waste disposal.

CANiT PUBLIC MEETING

KEY DATES AND PROVISIONAL SCHEDULE

1942 - 1946	Portions of the Linde property and buildings in the Town of Tonawanda were used to separate uranium from uranium ores under contract to the Manhattan Engineer District (MED).
1943	Efforts to identify a disposal site for waste residues produced during uranium processing at Linde commences. • A site known as the Haist property (Ashland 1) was leased by the Manhattan Engineer District for the disposal of the low grade uranium ore residuals.
1954	Atomic Energy Act requires the DOE and its predecessors, to conduct research development and production activities in such a manner to protect public health and safety.
1958	Radiological survey allows release of Haist property for other use without the removal of the residues.
1960	Haist property transferred to Ashland Oil.
1974	Ashland Oil constructs storage tanks and a drainage ditch on the Ashland 1 property. Excavated soil transported to Seaway and Ashland 2 for disposal.
1974	The U.S. Atomic Energy Commission (predecessor agency of the Department of Energy) together with Congress institutes the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP). • Currently, over 40 sites throughout the nation have been identified as needing cleanup.
April 11, 1988	DOE publishes a Notice of Intent (NOI) in the Federal Register to prepare a Feasibility Study and Proposed Plan to remediate the Tonawanda and Colonie, New York Sites.
April 26, 1988 and June 16, 1988	DOE conducts public scoping meetings in Tonawanda to solicit public comments from the local community on the proposed environmental process in Tonawanda and the alternatives under consideration.
Spring 1988	CANiT was formed in opposition to the Department of Energy's plan to transport Low Level Radioactive waste from Colonie, New York to Tonawanda.
1988	Department of Defense Appropriations Bill stating that DOE should not move or study the movement of any FUSRAP waste within New York State to Tonawanda.
December, 1989	CANiT requested that the DOE add the Seaway property to the Ashland 1, Ashland 2, and Linde properties in the environmental review process for cleanup.