



CITY OF TONAWANDA, NEW YORK

OFFICE OF THE CITY ENGINEER

200 Niagara Street · Tonawanda, New York 14150-1099

Phone: (716) 695-8624

Fax: (716) 743-8870

[Redacted]
Mayor

[Redacted]
Acting City Engineer

April 25, 2001

[Redacted], Project Engineer
Buffalo District Army Corps of Engineers
1776 Niagara Street
Buffalo, NY 14207-3199

Re: Sampling and Analysis Plan
Site Safety and Health Plan for Tonawanda FUSRAP Site

Dear [Redacted]:

The City of Tonawanda has no objections to the Draft Plans for the Tonawanda Landfill FUSRAP site. We therefore concur with these plans with respect to the above-referenced project you will be undertaking.

However, the landfill and mudflats sites are immediately adjacent to residential and commercial/industrial properties, and this raises some concerns that I would very strongly suggest ACOE respond to, either to each property owner individually, or in a release of some kind. The residential area I refer to is the dead ends of Brookside Terrace and Brookside Terrace West, Wadsworth Avenue, the whole of Wadsworth Court, and the south side of Hackett Drive. There is also a public school, Riverview, approximately located less than 750 feet from the work area.

I am concerned for these residents that sampling and disturbing the top 1.5 feet of soils suspected of containing uranium-238, thorium-230, and radium-226, in addition to americium-241, will cause any amount of this material to become airborne, directly impacting the air that these people will breathe. The safety and protection of the work crews is addressed in the plans that were sent to me; I recognize the need for characterization of the waste to determine the best approach for a final solution to the problem. But I do also think that our residents and businesses are entitled to the same assurances, protection, and level of comfort that the undertaking of these activities will not jeopardize their immediate health and well being (short-term or long-term) as well. It would not be the most comforting thing for me to look over my back fence and see a crew in radiation suits pulling soil samples, particularly if I wasn't aware of what was going on, or why it was being done.

Please do not hesitate to contact this office with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

[Redacted]
Mayor

[Redacted]
Acting City Engineer