

KENMORE-TONAWANDA  
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## DOE sets meeting on nuclear waste

It has been almost a year since the United States Department of Energy (DOE) announced that nuclear waste would be remaining in the Town of Tonawanda. Only its location would alter.

The waste is residual material—some 351,000 cubic yards—from the Manhattan Project, which developed the first three atomic weapons. The waste includes radioisotopes of uranium, radium and thorium.

In all that time, town residents and officials still have not accepted the DOE's recommendation, which calls for a consolidation of the waste—now spread over four sites in the town—into one reservoir near the Niagara River. Town officials balked at this notion because it interferes with waterfront development plans, while residents want nothing less than all of the material shipped out of the area, preferably to a federal site in Utah.

The impasse has lasted this long because the DOE believes that the \$200 million price tag to ship the material that distance is unwarranted. DOE had appropriated \$59 million for this particular project.

In an attempt to reach a compromise, the DOE is holding a meeting with residents and officials at Holmes Elementary School, 365 Dupont Avenue, on Tuesday, Jan. 31 from 7-9 p.m. The discussion will take place in the school's cafeteria.