

FAQs for the Tonawanda Landfill and Mudflats From Previous Meetings

General Site Questions

1. Where is the Tonawanda Landfill and Mudflats?

The Tonawanda Landfill and Mudflats Area is located at the northern end of East Park Drive in the Town of Tonawanda, a suburb north of Buffalo, NY. The area is located about 1.5 miles to the north of the Linde FUSRAP Site. The Tonawanda Landfill and Mudflats Area properties are currently owned by the Town of Tonawanda. Adjacent properties include a residential area within the City of Tonawanda, the CSX Railroad main line rail tracks, a Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation utility right-of-way corridor, Interstate 290, and a former municipal incinerator that is no longer in use.

2. When did the Tonawanda Landfill and Mudflats Area become a FUSRAP Site?

In 1991, Oak Ridge National Laboratory identified material within the site with enhanced levels of uranium-238 similar to the product and by-product material from the former Linde Air Products facility. As the result of this survey, the Tonawanda Landfill and Mudflats Area was formally designated a Vicinity Property to the Linde Site under FUSRAP by the Department of Energy in December 1992.

3. How big is it?

The Tonawanda Landfill is approximately 55 acres in size and the Mudflats Area is about 115 acres in size.

4. What is on the site?

Records indicate that the landfill was principally used for the disposal of construction and demolition material, leaves, incinerator ash, and municipal waste. The Corps is investigating the area to determine the extent of Radium, Thorium, and Uranium contamination in the soil.

5. Who owns it?

The Tonawanda Landfill and Mudflats Area properties are currently owned by the Town of Tonawanda.

6. How did the area become contaminated?

Landfill operations occurred between the mid-1930's to 1989. So far, we haven't found any evidence that shows exactly how the FUSRAP material was brought there. Our investigation is still ongoing.

7. What other organizations are involved in the investigation?

Onsite contamination of the Tonawanda Landfill and Mudflats Area has been identified in surveys by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), the U.S. Department of Energy, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the agency managing the cleanup program at this time. The Corps works closely with the US

Environmental Protection Agency and the NYSDEC throughout the investigation process.

8. What is the current status of the site?

The Corps is currently performing a remedial investigation/feasibility study for a portion of the Tonawanda Landfill and Mudflats Area. For approximately four to six weeks beginning in June 2001, the Corps will be conducting sampling. We will be looking for trace amounts of uranium, radium and thorium. This investigation will gather more information about site conditions and the nature and extent of the materials deposited there.

9. What is the purpose of the Remedial Investigation (RI)?

The remedial investigation will determine the amount, location, and nature of contaminants that are related to Manhattan Engineer District activities.

10. What is the purpose of the Feasibility Study?

Each area that poses a risk to human health and the environment will be evaluated in the Feasibility Study. The Feasibility Study identifies and evaluates possible cleanup solutions to determine their effectiveness in protecting human health and the environment.

11. How can I get more information about the Tonawanda Landfill and Mudflats Site?

FUSRAP welcomes inquiries about the Tonawanda Landfill and Mudflats Area. Call toll-free at 1-800-833-6390, or email us at : fusrap@usace.army.mil. You can also ask to be included on FUSRAP's mailing list, which will inform you about upcoming public meetings. Contact: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, FUSRAP Public Information Center. 1776 Niagara St., Buffalo, NY 14207.

