

PRESS RELEASE March 8, 2012

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March 13th RAB Meeting:

“Evidence the NFSS Containment Structure is Leaking”

At the upcoming LOOW RAB Steering Committee meeting on Tuesday, March 13th, RAB Technical Chair Ann Roberts will review Army Corps environmental investigation and surveillance results that may suggest the 30-year old federal radioactive waste containment structure is leaking.

RAB Vice Chair Alfonso Marra Bax noted, “The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is in the process of determining whether large amounts of high-activity radioactive waste will be removed, or partially removed, from the Town of Lewiston. There are several variations of these options being considered, including the creation of a permanent federal radioactive waste disposal facility. Although the Corps has not officially selected an option, it has begun to create a public record that may permit or preclude certain options. RAB members are encouraged to attend this meeting which is also open to the public.”

The RAB meeting will be on Tuesday, March 13th, at 6:00p.m., at the Lew-Port Central School District’s Community Resource Center, in the Board Room.

Official information regarding the RAB can be found on the RAB website at <http://loowrab.com/>

Background:

The 191-acre Niagara Falls Storage Site (NFSS) is located on Pletcher Rd., in Lewiston, about one mile east of Lew-Port Central School District property. The NFSS is still owned by the federal government and temporarily houses radioactive material from atomic weapons production during the 1940’s and 50’s. The radioactive material is temporarily stored in a containment structure consisting of a WWII-era basement that was repaired in the early 1980’s and partially covered with engineered clay.

The NFSS is located on the former Lake Ontario Ordnance Works (LOOW) site. Located in the Towns of Lewiston and Porter, the LOOW consists of approximately 7,500 acres of publicly and privately owned parcels, once owned by the federal government for military operations begun during WWII.

The mission of the LOOW RAB is to promote the satisfactory remediation of the entire LOOW site and to help inform and involve the public. The RAB is a stakeholder group comprising municipalities, agencies, tribes, academics, property owners and members of the public. The RAB compliments but does not replace other forms of communication regarding U.S. Army Corps of Engineers environmental investigations and remediation activities at the LOOW site.