



PRESS RELEASE

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RAB TO HOLD ELECTIONS TO FILL STEERING COMMITTEE VACANCIES

RAB Membership Committee Chair Bill Choboy announces that the RAB is accepting nominations through August 12th to fill a minimum of four vacancies for its 15-member Steering Committee. “There were four resignations last week to form a non-regulated group. The RAB has not been dissolved. To the contrary, the RAB is gearing up to evaluate and communicate risks at the LOOW site from federal legacy chemical and radiological contamination. These risks will heavily influence which potential solutions the Army Corps of Engineers selects in the next two years to clean up the site.”

Choboy noted that since its inception, “The RAB complements but does not replace other types of community outreach and participation efforts, or those activities required by applicable federal and state laws. For example, the new Niagara Action Council is a separate non-regulated group being formed to work with an Army Corps facilitator, whose scope is restricted to certain topics under just one of the Corps programs at the LOOW site.” The RAB, which has been in place since 1999, is still operational and committed to the mission (below.) New members from the public are always welcomed to join the RAB. Steering Committee nominations or general membership requests can be sent to Bill Choboy at: billc313@yahoo.com or call 745-7790.

“The mission of the Lake Ontario Ordnance Works (LOOW) Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) is to influence the investigation and promote the satisfactory remediation of the entire LOOW site, including all publicly and privately owned parcels.

- The RAB endeavors to ensure that the community is provided the opportunity as early as possible to obtain information about, provide input to, and have impact on, the decisions regarding all investigations and restoration activities at the LOOW site within the 1942 boundary.
- The RAB is a forum for the public and all stakeholders for the exchange of information as well as open and independent dialog concerning the environmental investigation and remediation activities at the LOOW.”

Investigation and remedial activities at the LOOW are conducted primarily by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, through programs designed to address legacy contamination from U.S. Dept. of Defense and U.S. Dept. of Energy operations. The LOOW site consists of approximately 7,500 acres of publicly and privately owned parcels located in the Towns of Lewiston and Porter that were once owned by the federal government and used for military weapons production-related operations started during WWII. It includes the 191-acre Niagara Falls Storage Site, which still houses radioactive waste material from weapons production in the 1940’s and 1950’s.