

# Niagara County LEPC Minutes

Wednesday, April 10, 2024

Niagara County PSTF- Lockport, NY

## **Call to Order**

Vice Chair Kevin Hodgson called meeting to order followed by the Pledge. Introductions were next, followed by the introduction to our presentation by Walt Garrow.

## **Presentation**

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers- Jeff Hall, Riley Carey, Harold Leggett, Jim Stachowski.

Overview of what the Formally Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program does, Niagara Falls storage site is being investigated for cleanup, brief history of Lake Ontario Ordnance Works and Niagara Falls, remediation phases, presentation will focus on near term activities which includes site activities, air monitoring and waste management transportation. Cleaning up surrounding 191 acres. The mission of the Formally Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP) is to identify, investigate and if needed clean up or control sites throughout the US contaminated as a result of early Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) or the Manhattan Engineer District (MED) in accordance with Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA). DOD, unless the site is on the national priorities list, is the lead agency and by extension the US Army Corps of Engineers. In 1941 the war department purchased 7,500 acres of land in Niagara County, for the purpose of manufacturing TNT during WW2, also known as the Lake Ontario Ordnance Works. The LOOW was split up into a developed zone, which was where the TNT production happened, and the undeveloped zone which was more of a buffer. The LOOW was very effective and created a lot of TNT and we still have TNT from that production site. After 9 months of manufacturing it closed down. During the 1940's to 1980's the LOOW was used as a storage site for radioactive materials used by the Manhattan Engineering District. Buffalo District has one opened project left that's going out to bid this year.

Quick facts on the Interim Waste Containment Structure. It was designed to safely contain radioactive waste, prevent rainwater infiltration, prevent ground water migration and retard radon gas emission. The gas migrates up through clay and breaks down into its daughter products and doesn't emit much radon gas. Built between 82 and 86 by Dept. of Energy 10 acres, 34 feet below grade with 10 to 15 feet of cover above. Contents are uranium processing waste, contaminated soil and equipment. 278,000 cubic yards of material that has to come out. (Please visit the sites below for more detailed information on FUSRAP and the steps being taken to clean the sites up.)

[Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program > Great Lakes and Ohio River Division > Programs \(army.mil\)](#)

[Niagara Falls Storage Site > Great Lakes and Ohio River Division > Projects \(army.mil\)](#)

### **Notifications and Updates**

Walt Garrow, CHHM Ret.- suggesting next presentation to be an EPA Representative to help with bylaws and roles and responsibilities of the LEPC. And Matt from Moog, interested in doing a presentation on Tier II, which we are responsible for keeping track of.

Kevin Hodgson, NC Hazmat- Chief (Quagliano), Lara should be sending you info for TEEX coming in for HazMat training.

Kathy Moguel, Durez-, do we want to talk about planning from the now passed Eclipse. Mike Seibel, asked the question what could be done better, and the answer was it went perfect. Everything went smoothly, and there were plans for if plan A didn't work, and then what if plan B didn't work. Any headcount of the amount of people that actually came to the area, and as of now there is not a headcount.

### **Report of the Chairperson**

None

### **Report of the Emergency Manager**

None

### **Report of the Vice Chair**

None

### **Old Business**

None

### **New Business**

Sandra Miller, Avantor-February 29<sup>th</sup> Avantor will be closing Sanborn Facility. Finished production August 29<sup>th</sup> and the decommissioning will go through December 1st. In phase 1 of shut down process, waiting on report from Langdon for next steps for phase 2. All environmental reporting and permits will be closed out by August 29 with exception of hazardous waste which will continue until December.

### **Good of the Order**

Robert Poczalski, DEC- Reminder that there is a burn ban through May 14<sup>th</sup>. Also the DEC is meeting with several groups with Tuscarora with an After Action report from the February 12<sup>th</sup> Gas Tanker roll over, which was uneventful.

### **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 10:00am. Next meeting will be on June 12th, 2024. Location will be at Niagara County PSTF, 5574 Niagara Street Ext. Lockport, NY.

**Attendance:**

Chris Banach	Mark Banks
Tim Bathory	Chelsea Collett
Sean Costello	Sal D'Angelo
Clayton Dimmick	Walt Garrow
Marc Gschwend	Kevin Hodson
John Kelly	Dave Mack
Rob Meyer	Francisco Meza Agüero
Sandra Miller	Kathy Moguel
Robert Poczalski	Luca Quagliano
Mike Seibel	Lauren Serencsics
Michael Spencer	Bob Wojcik
EXCUSED:	
Tim Balunis	David Godfrey
Gregory Kulka	Harry Meyer