



**US Army Corps
of Engineers@
New York District**

FUSRAP
**Colonie Interim Storage Site
(CISS)**
Colonie, New York

FACT SHEET

Jan 2004

DESCRIPTION: The site consists of a total area of 11.2 acres plus 56 vicinity properties. The site was owned and operated by National Lead Industries (NL) from 1937-1984. The facility was used for electroplating and manufacturing various components from uranium and thorium. Radioactive materials released from the plant exhaust stacks spread to site buildings, portions of the grounds, and 56 commercial and residential vicinity properties (VPs). NL also dumped contaminated casting sand into the former Patroon Lake. The New York State Supreme Court shut down the NL plant in 1984.

AUTHORIZATION/PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Responsibility for the Colonie site was assigned to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) as a decontamination research and development project by the U.S. Congress through the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act of 1984. DOE placed the site in their Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP). In October 1997, responsibility for executing FUSRAP was transferred from DOE to the USACE by further Congressional action. Uranium, thorium, lead, copper and tetrachloroethene are the principal contaminants at the site. Two types of contaminated media are present at the site: source media (which includes soil, processing waste, and bulk waste) and remnants of structures on Colonie.

STATUS: USACE has re-examined the 1995 EE/CA and remedial options. Due to community concerns regarding DOE's selected alternative, technical and regulatory difficulties with elements of the DOE selected plan, and availability of more cost-efficient off-site disposal facilities, the Corps explored additional options for shipping the remaining contaminated soils off-site. As a result of the reevaluation, the Corps selected an alternate remedy, Alternative 2B — Large-scale Excavation and Disposal, for the Colonie site. On December 26, 2001, the Action Memorandum alternate remedy was approved. Under the new plan, soils with concentrations in excess of radiological and metals removal action goals are being removed and disposed off-site. Approximately two feet of clean soil will be placed over affected areas, leaving the Site available for development for unrestricted residential, commercial, industrial, or recreational use.

Major accomplishments this year include final status of fourteen one-half acre parcels approved by NYSDEC, with excavation of 86,000 yds of contaminated soil, shipment and disposal of over 90,000 yds of soil. Over 97,000 cubic yards of backfill have been placed at the site. The groundwater remedial investigation report was finalized in July 2003 and a draft risk assessment and feasibility study are being prepared. An initial soils investigation on the last DOE approved vicinity property (CSX) has been performed and an EECA document is being prepared. An investigation of depleted uranium in 3 Mile reservoir and Patroon Creek was performed in October 2003 and results will be available in the spring of 2004. Current activities include operation of a water treatment plant, standard civil engineering excavation and backfill efforts; and waste shipment and disposal; preparation of a feasibility study/proposed plan for groundwater due in Winter/Spring 2004. Soil remediation is planned to be completed in fiscal year 2005, based on increased volumes of lead contaminated soils.

CONTACT: James Moore, Program and Project Management Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District, 26 Federal Plaza, Room 1811, New York, NY 10278 tel: 732-435-0079 or 212-264-4023, mail to: James.T.Moore@nan02.usace.army.mil, web: <http://www.nan.usace.army.mil>