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Seneca County IDA To Host Public Information Meeting Saturday, Nov. 7

Agency will discuss its plans for former Seneca Army Depot

Waterloo, N.Y., Oct. 13, 2015 – The Seneca County Industrial Development Agency will host a public information meeting to discuss the immediate future of the former Seneca Army Depot next month. The meeting will take place at 10 a.m. at Romulus Fire Hall, 2010 Cayuga Street, Romulus.

"After two decades of marketing the former Seneca Army Depot for economic development, the IDA is planning to sell the Depot's remaining, approximately 7,000 acres," said IDA Executive Director Bob Aronson. "But before we do so, we want to discuss the issue with the public, provide the opportunity for questions, and ensure any potential sale is an open and fair process."

Of the 7,000 acres, approximately 3,000 acres are located in the town of Varick and approximately 4,000 acres are in Romulus.

The IDA is planning to sell the Depot for two main reasons. First, the Army's environmental clean-up is expected to be completed in 2016 and, in fact, the Army's caretaker responsibilities are already winding down. The IDA cannot afford to take on these caretaker responsibilities, which include management of the Depot property, security, fence repair and maintenance, and wildlife management.

Second, the IDA is eager to see the Depot returned to the tax rolls, increasing the County's tax base and serving as an economic asset. The IDA has been approached by

bidders for the Depot property in recent months, Aronson said, and the agency wants to give the public, including other prospective buyers, an opportunity to learn more.

"If you've ever had an interest in the former Seneca Army Depot, the public information meeting on Nov. 7 will be your best chance to discuss its immediate future and the potential economic impact on Seneca County," Aronson said. "We strongly encourage interested parties to attend."