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# Release of Micron impact report delayed, further crunching construction timeline

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Micron Technology plans to build a massive chipmaking complex in the town of Clay. This conceptual rendering shows the scale of the development, which could be several times larger than the New York State Fairgrounds. Onondaga County



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Syracuse, N.Y. – The Micron Technology impact report won't be released until June 25, three weeks later than Onondaga County officials had initially projected.

The delay further crunches the already tight timeline for Micron to start construction this fall on its chipmaking complex in the town of Clay. Micron must complete a lengthy environmental review process and then obtain a wide range of permits before it can start clearing trees and moving dirt.

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Micron has said it plans to start construction in November. County Executive Ryan McMahon said today that will likely be late November or December.

County officials have said for months that they would release the Micron draft environmental impact statement the first week of June. McMahon said today that Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency and U.S. Department of Commerce officials wanted to spend extra time to make the report more complete.

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“Our teams at OCIDA and our consultants and commerce and all of our state agencies have worked very diligently over the last few weeks, putting in thousands of hours to strengthen that document into something that eventually could be deemed complete for public review,” he said today at a news conference.

McMahon said OCIDA plans to vote on accepting the draft environmental impact statement on June 25. The report would be made public that day on OCIDA’s website, he said.

Micron submitted the report in March to OCIDA and the commerce department’s CHIPS Program Office, which are conducting parallel reviews of the projects’ environmental and social impacts.

Under state and federal law, the two agencies must review the report and then release it for public comment.

State law requires a minimum public comment period of 30 days. McMahon said OCIDA has extended that review to 45 days, but that’s the minimum already required by federal law.

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McMahon said one public hearing will be held, likely on July 24. No location has been set.

Environmental and citizen groups say they want at least 120 days to review the huge report. More than 1,200 people have signed an online petition asking for the extended comment period and five public hearings.

County officials have refused to release the environmental report, although public records experts say it should have been released months ago under the state’s Freedom of Information Law.

Syracuse.com has obtained the bulk of the report and published several stories about its findings.

Micron's report is a critical step in the company's plans to build the Clay complex and begin tapping into subsidies from the federal, state and county governments.

The report, compiled by consulting firms paid by Micron, makes the case that the company can build the massive complex while reducing environmental and social harms. That argument assumes that public agencies and utilities – and ultimately taxpayers and users — are willing to make major investments in infrastructure over the next two decades.

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The report details the impacts the project could have on everything from air quality to housing to wetlands to wildlife. Micron also had to suggest actions to help reduce the impacts, such as setting aside land for bats and birds displaced by the project.

Micron is on a tight timetable. The environmental review process could take months, and Micron says it plans to start clearing trees from the site in November and start construction in early 2026.

The environmental review assumes Micron will build four fabrication plants, or fabs, over the next 16 years. Each fab is 150 feet high and sprawls across 28 acres. The entire complex, including utility buildings and offices, would cover nearly 1,000 acres, an area nearly three times bigger than the New York State Fairgrounds.

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