

GE 159 Plastics Avenue Pittsfield, MA 01201 USA

Transmitted via Overnight Courier

August 20, 2008

Mr. Dean Tagliaferro
EPA Project Coordinator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 1
c/o Weston Solutions, Inc.
10 Lyman Street, Suite 2
Pittsfield, MA 01201

Re: GE-Pittsfield/Housatonic River Site

Allendale School Property (GECD500) Summary of Vegetative Restoration Work

Dear Mr. Tagliaferro:

On March 19, 2008, the General Electric Company (GE) submitted to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) a document titled *Allendale School Property Supplemental Soil Removal Report* (Supplemental Soil Removal Report). That report summarized soil removal activities performed by GE in December 2007 and January 2008 within a portion of the Allendale School property located at 180 Connecticut Avenue in Pittsfield, Massachusetts (Figure 1). Following performance of the supplemental soil removal activities, EPA and GE had several discussions regarding the restoration of the soil removal area. As a result of those discussions, GE submitted the *Allendale School Property Vegetative Planting Plan* (Planting Plan) to EPA on May 9, 2008. EPA approved the Planting Plan in a letter to GE dated May 27, 2008. GE subsequently performed the approved vegetative restoration activities. This letter summarizes those activities, which complete the scope of GE's supplemental soil removal and restoration activities at the Allendale School property.

The supplemental soil removal activities conducted by GE at the Allendale School property were described in detail in the Supplemental Soil Removal Report. Those activities were performed between December 17, 2007 and January 7, 2008 and consisted of the excavation of approximately 1,700 cubic yards of soil for subsequent placement at the Hill 78 On-Plant Consolidation Area, followed by limited restoration activities. Due to the onset of winter, restoration activities at that time were limited to installation of backfill and topsoil, removal of a gravel road used to access the area, installation of grass seed and starter fertilizer, and the restoration of a portion of chain-link fencing located along the property boundary between the GE facility and Allendale School property. As described in the Supplemental Soil Removal Report, the remaining temporary chain-link fence, hay bales, and silt fence were left in place until final restoration activities were performed in the spring.

Following EPA's May 27, 2008 approval of GE's May 9, 2008 Planting Plan, the approved vegetative restoration activities were conducted at the supplemental soil removal area at the Allendale School property. Specifically, on June 13, 2008, D.F. Lane Landscaping performed the following restoration activities, as shown on Figure 2: (a) installation of a row of 12 shrubs at a spacing of approximately 5 feet on center along the western boundary of the supplemental soil removal area; and (b) installation of five clusters of four shrubs each (20 shrubs total) at specified locations within the supplemental soil removal area. The restored shrubs consisted of 50% red osier dogwood shrubs and 50% silky dogwood shrubs, with each shrub being a minimum three feet in height.

Following completion of the aforementioned vegetative restoration activities, the remaining temporary chain-link fence was removed by the Berkshire Fence Company on July 11, 2008, and the remaining hay bales and silt fence were removed by the remediation contractor (D.R. Billings, Inc.) on July 14, 2008. The performance of the above-described restoration represents the completion of the scope of the supplemental soil removal/restoration activities agreed upon by GE and EPA for the Allendale School property.

Please feel free to call me with any questions or comments regarding this document.

Sincerely,

Richard W. Gates

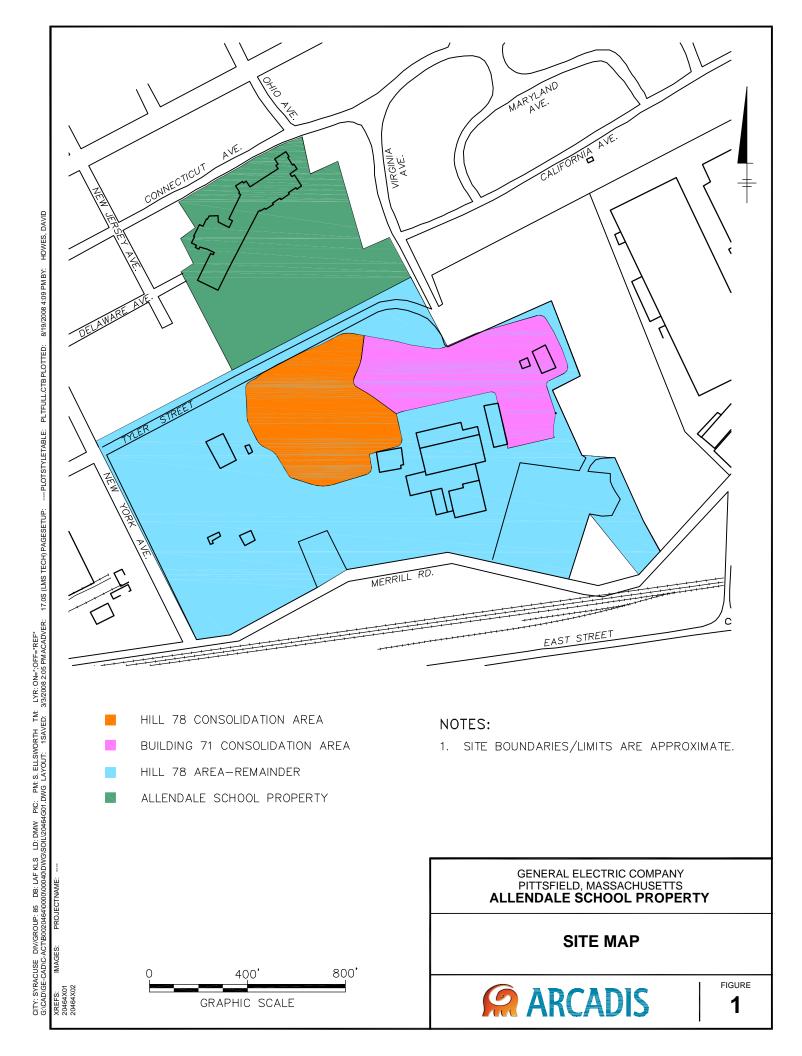
Robal V. Cats / Cut

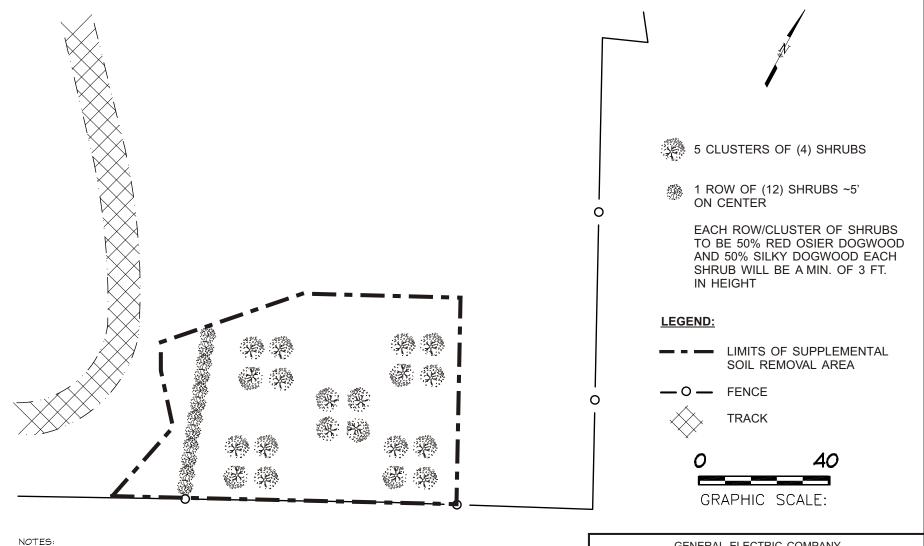
Remediation Project Manager

Attachments

cc: Tim Conway, EPA Holly Inglis, EPA John Kilborn Rose Howell, EPA* Michael Gorski, MDEP Susan Steenstrup, MDEP Anna Symington, MDEP* Jane Rothchild, MDEP* Linda Palmieri, Weston (2 copies) Mayor James Ruberto, City of Pittsfield Carl Ameen, Principal, Allendale School Jeffrey Bernstein, BCK Law Michael Carroll, GE* Rod McLaren, GE James Nuss, ARCADIS James Bieke, Goodwin Procter **Public Information Repositories** GE Internal Repositories

(* without attachments)





- 1. AS BUILT CONDITIONS SHOWN AT ALLENDALE SCHOOL ARE AS OF NOVEMBER 11, 1999.
- 2. HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL CONTROL SUPPLIED BY BLASLAND, BOUCK AND LEE.
- 3. RESTORATION PLAN PROVIDED BY WHITE ENGINEERING, INC. PLAN ENTITLED "SITE RESTORATION PLAN AT ALLENDALE SCHOOL" AND DATED 6-14-99.
- 4. PRE-1950 CONTOURS BASED ON UNTITLED AND UNDATED TOPOGRAPHIC MAPPING OF ALLENDALE SCHOOL PROPERTY. EXISTING AND FINISH 1951 CONTOURS BASED ON GRADING PLAN DATED 5/9/51, DRAWN BY S.W. HAYNES \$ ASSOCIATES.

REFERENCE: FIGURE BASED ON DRAWING C-102 PREPARED BY WESTON SOLUTIONS, INC. FOR EPA DATED 10/2/07.

GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY
PITTSFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS
ALLENDALE SCHOOL PROPERTY

VEGETATIVE RESTORATION OF SUPPLEMENTAL SOIL REMOVAL AREA



FIGURE

2