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## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

## REGION 1 1 CONGRESS STREET, SUITE 1100 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02114-2023

July 7, 2008

OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

Ian Bowles, Secretary Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs 100 Cambridge Street, Suite 900 Boston, MA 02114

Dear Secretary Bowles:

Thank you for your June 16, 2008 letter regarding the Corrective Measures Study (CMS) for the Housatonic River cleanup prepared by General Electric (GE). As a follow-up to your letter, I met with Commissioner Laurie Burt of your Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and Commissioner Mary Griffin of your Department of Fish and Game on June 30. At that meeting, we discussed the CMS and your Departments' concerns, established a process for further discussions, and have scheduled follow-up meetings with staff of both Departments during the month of July.

After those staff discussions have concluded, EPA will discuss our plan for moving forward with the Commonwealth before proceeding. I also note that EPA has yet to make our own proposal on the remedy for the "Rest of River" phase of the cleanup and will consult with DEP before doing so in accordance with longstanding procedures.

I look forward to continue working together to ensure that the Commonwealth's concerns are addressed.

Sincerely.

Robert W. Varney

Regional Administrator

cc: Commissioner Laurie Burt, MassDEP

Commissioner Mary Griffin, Mass Fish & Game

Help us serve you better. If you need to call us regarding this correspondence in the future, please reference R1-08-000-8121