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SDMS 261526



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
ONE CONGRESS STREET, SUITE 1100  
BOSTON, MA 02114-2023**

August 30, 2005

Mr. Andrew T. Silfer  
Corporate Environmental Programs  
General Electric Company  
159 Plastics Avenue  
Pittsfield, MA 01201

Via Electronic and U.S. Mail

Re: Conditional Approval of General Electric's Second Interim Pre-Design Investigation Report for Soils Adjacent to Silver Lake, GE-Pittsfield/Housatonic River Site, Pittsfield, Massachusetts.

Dear Mr. Silfer:

This letter contains the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) conditional approval of the above-referenced *Second Interim Pre-Design Investigation Report for Soils Adjacent to Silver Lake* (Report) dated May 17, 2005. This Report is subject to the terms and conditions specified in the Consent Decree (CD) that was entered in U.S. District Court on October 27, 2000.

Pursuant to Paragraph 73 of the CD, EPA, after consultation with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP), approves the Report, subject to the following conditions.

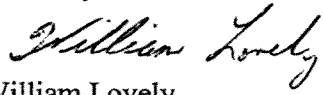
1. At Parcel I9-9-1, GE shall collect a soil sample from the 3- to 5-foot depth increment at boring location I9-9-1-SB-5 and analyze for lead and sulfide.
2. At Parcel I9-9-9, GE shall add sulfide analysis to the proposed 1-to 3-foot sample from the soil boring location west of I9-9-9-SB-3.
3. At Parcel I9-10-8, GE shall collect a soil sample from the 3- to 5-foot depth increment at boring location I9-10-8-SB-19 and analyze for mercury.

GE shall perform the sampling activities described in the Report, as modified with the additional samples described above, and submit a report to EPA within four months of the date of this letter.

EPA reserves its right to perform additional sampling in the areas subject to this Report and/or require additional sampling or Response Actions, if necessary, to meet the requirements of the Consent Decree.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (617) 918-1247.

Sincerely,



William Lovely  
GE Facility Project Manager

cc:

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James Nuss, BB&L  
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Mayor James Ruberto, City of Pittsfield  
Public Information Repositories  
Affected Property Owners