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U. S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY – REGION I
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 BOSTON, MA 02114-2023

SDMS 258049

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BY:

October 16, 2000

Via Facsimile and U.S. Mail

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

RE: Final Conditional Approval of General Electric's June, 2000 submittal entitled "Pre-Design Investigation Work Plan for Removal Actions for 20s, 30s, and 40s Complexes" relating to the GE-Pittsfield/Housatonic River Site.

Dear Mr. Silfer:

The General Electric Company ("GE") has submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) a "Pre-Design Investigation Work Plan for Removal Actions for 20s, 30s, and 40s Complexes" dated June, 2000. This submittal, dated June, 2000, is a revision of a prior work plan dated January 6, 2000. GE's June, 2000 submittal (including appendices) and all documents related to these removal actions submitted by GE to EPA after the January 6, 2000 document shall be referred to as the "Work Plan."

The Work Plan is subject to the terms and conditions specified in the Consent Decree that was lodged in the federal District Court for the District of Massachusetts on October 7, 1999 (the "Consent Decree"). Pursuant to Paragraphs 16 and 73(b) of the Consent Decree, EPA, after review by and consultation with the Massachusetts DEP, conditionally approves the Work Plan subject to the following conditions:

1. Within 14 calendar days of receipt of this letter, GE shall provide a schedule for the implementation of the tasks outlined in the Work Plan. The schedule shall include projected start dates for field work, estimated duration periods of the activity, and projected dates for submitting the "Pre-Design Investigative Report," referenced in Section 5.0 to EPA and DEP for review. GE should assume that EPA and DEP will require 30 calendar days to review the Pre-Design Investigative Report or any interim documents that GE may

elect to submit prior to the Pre-Design Investigative Report.

2. GE shall initiate field work (defined as actual on-site activities, including but not limited to, the installation of borings and the collection of samples) no later than 30 calendar days after entry of the Consent Decree by the federal District Court. Note that pursuant to Consent Decree Paragraph 18.b, GE is required to initiate performance of the obligations contained in the Work Plan following entry of the Consent Decree according to a schedule approved by EPA.

EPA reserves its right, and the right of the Pittsfield Economic Development Authority, to perform additional sampling in the area subject to this Work Plan. EPA's approval contained in this letter does not preclude EPA from requiring additional investigations and/or response activities in the future consistent with the Consent Decree and/or the *Statement of Work for Removal Actions Outside the River* (Appendix E to the Consent Decree). In the event the federal District Court does not enter the Consent Decree, EPA reserves the right to require additional investigations and/or response activities pursuant to its statutory and regulatory authorities, including, but not limited to, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act and the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act.

If you require clarification of this letter or have any questions, please contact Michael Nalipinski at (617) 918-1268 or myself at (617) 918-1365.

Sincerely,



Bryan Olson
EPA Project Coordinator
GE-Pittsfield/Housatonic River Site

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|-----|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| cc: | Michael Nalipinski, | EPA |
| | Tim Conway, | EPA |
| | John Kilborn, | EPA |
| | Holly Inglis, | EPA |
| | J. Lyn Cutler, | MA DEP |
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