



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

June 30, 2006

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 April 14, 2006 *Conceptual Removal Design/Removal Action Work Plan Addendum, East Street Area 2-North*, 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 *Conceptual Removal Design/Removal Action Work Plan Addendum for East Street Area 2-North*, (Addendum) dated April 14, 2006. This Addendum 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 above-referenced submittal, subject to the following conditions:

1. GE shall revise Figure 3 to include soil removal associated with polygons 215, 329, and 330 (0.0-0.5') as shown on Figure C-2 and polygons 217, 331, and 332 (0.5-1.0') as shown on Figure C-4. These polygons represent soil with concentrations above the not-to-exceed Performance Standard of 125 ppm PCBs in unpaved areas. This revised Figure 3 shall be included in the Final Removal Design/Removal Action Work Plan for East Street Area 2-North, discussed below.
2. GE shall consider removing soil in the vicinity of PS-W-47B (2-6') and PS-W-56C (6-10') due to elevated volatile organic compound concentrations.
3. GE shall submit a plan for EPA's approval regarding the characterization and disposition of the slab of each building or former building in the portion of the East Street Area 2-North Removal Action Area (RAA) that GE is planning on transferring to the Pittsfield Economic Development Authority (PEDA). This property consists of

the westerly portion of the RAA, as shown on Figure 2 of the Addendum. Such submittal shall describe GE's plan for the characterization and disposition of the slabs. If any slabs are to be removed, GE shall provide details regarding the characterization of each slab for disposition. If any slabs are to remain in place, GE shall provide a plan to ensure that each slab is protective of human health and the environment. If the plan for any slab is unknown, or if any slab will remain unused, GE shall submit a plan for the installation and maintenance of appropriate engineering controls to limit direct contact and groundwater leaching risks (for example, cover with asphalt). The plan shall also evaluate required provisions in the Environmental Restriction and Easement (ERE) to address direct contact and other risks from the slabs. GE shall submit the plans required by this paragraph at the earlier of (i) 30 days after GE receives notice of PEDAs foundation requirements for the East Street Area 2-North RAA, or (ii) December 29, 2006.

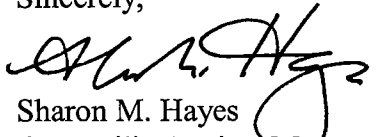
4. The ERE for the portion of the property to be transferred to PEDAs shall accurately delineate the paved and unpaved portions of the property, including, without limitation, any sub-slab soil characterized according to a sampling grid pertaining to unpaved areas.
5. If any building slabs (other than the slabs under former Buildings 15, 15A, 15B, and 15-Ext) are removed prior to the recordation and/or registration of an ERE on any portion of this RAA, GE shall perform additional soil characterization of the soil located below the removed slab, at an unpaved sampling grid frequency, and propose additional response actions if necessary to meet the soil-related Performance Standards for unpaved areas.

EPA agrees with GE's proposed schedule for submitting the Final Removal Design/Removal Action Work Plan (due within 60 days of this letter).

EPA reserves its right to perform additional sampling and/or require additional sampling or Response Actions, if necessary, to meet the requirements of the CD.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (617) 918-1328.

Sincerely,


Sharon M. Hayes
GE Facility Project Manager

cc:

Dean Tagliaferro, EPA
John Kilborn, EPA
Rose Howell, EPA

Tom Hickey, PEDAs
Rod McLaren, GE
Mike Carroll, GE

Holly Inglis, EPA
Sue Steenstrup, MDEP
Anna Symington, MDEP
Jane Rothchild, MDEP
Thomas Angus, MDEP
Nancy E. Harper, MA AG
K.C. Mitkevicius, USACE
Mayor James Ruberto, City of Pittsfield
Pittsfield Department of Health

John Novotny, GE
James Nuss, BBL
James Bieke, Goodwin Procter LLP
Linda Palmieri, Weston Solutions
Dale Young, MA EOEA
Teresa Bowers, Gradient
Jeffrey Bernstein, Bernstein, Cushner & Kimmell
Public Information Repository (Berkshire Athenaeum)