

**01-0272**

Corporate Environmental Programs
General Electric Company
100 Woodlawn Avenue, Pittsfield, MA 01201

Transmitted Via Federal Express

January 29, 1999

Bryan Olson
Dean Tagliaferro
Site Evaluation and Response Section (HBR)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
One Congress Street
Boston, MA 02203-2211

Alan Weinberg
Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup
Department of Environmental Protection
436 Dwight Street
Springfield, MA 01103

**Re: Proposal for Further Investigations Pursuant to Supplemental Source Control Containment / Recovery Measures for East Street Area 2, General Electric Company, Pittsfield, Massachusetts
DEP Site No. 1-0146, USEPA Area 4**

Dear Mr. Olson, Mr. Tagliaferro, Mr. Weinberg:

Pursuant to the January 1999 document entitled *Proposal for Supplemental Source Control Containment/Recovery Measures* (Source Control Proposal), the General Electric Company (GE) has prepared a supplemental bank soil and sediment investigation proposal for the section of the Housatonic River adjacent to the East Street Area 2 site. The portion of the river subject to investigation is located in the vicinity of the light non-aqueous phase liquid (LNAPL) containment barrier proposed in the Source Control Proposal.

As discussed in the Source Control Proposal, the objective of the supplemental investigation is to further evaluate the potential for historic LNAPL residuals to be present in the bank soil and sediments that are adjacent to the proposed containment barrier and which are not currently proposed for removal as part of GE's *Removal Action Work Plan Upper 1/2 Mile Reach of Housatonic River (1/2-Mile Work Plan)*. The attached figure identifies nine proposed sediment sampling locations. Each of these sediment sampling locations will be positioned approximately 1 foot from the edge of the riverbank. At each location, sediment samples will be collected in 1 foot intervals to a depth of 3 to 4 feet. The final depth will be based upon field observations (e.g., staining, sheens) and sampling limitations. Each 1 foot sample will be analyzed for PCBs and total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH).

Additionally, samples are proposed to be collected utilizing a direct push sampling probe from 8 river bank locations as shown on the attached figure. These locations correspond to locations previously sampled by the EPA. However, samples will be collected at depths below those analyzed by EPA (typically 2.5 feet). It is anticipated that samples will be collected to a depth of 6 to 8 feet below grade, depending upon visual observation (e.g., staining, sheens) and sampling limitations. Soil below those depths previously sampled by the EPA will be analyzed in 1 foot increments for PCBs and TPH.

Following Agency approval, GE will conduct the proposed sampling activities and provide a summary letter to the Agencies within approximately 30 to 45 days. In that letter, GE will indicate whether additional activities regarding the scope of response actions identified in the 1/2-Mile Work Plan (Blasland, Bouck & Lee, Inc., January 1999) are warranted.

Please contact me at (413) 494-3952 if you have any comments regarding this proposal.

Yours truly,

J.D. Ciampa
CRT

John D. Ciampa
Remediation Project Manager

CRT/plh

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