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

March 15, 2000

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Mr. Brian Olson, Project Coordinator
Mr. Dean Tagliaferro, On-Site Coordinator
Office of Site Remediation and Restoration
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
One Congress Street, Suite 250
Boston, MA 02203-2211

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RECOVERY COMMISSION

Subject: **DNAPL Investigation at Newell Street Area II -
Plant Site 1 Groundwater Management Area**

Dear Messrs. Olson and Tagliaferro:

In EPA's February 29, 2000 Conditional Approval letter for GE's January 14, 2000 DNAPL Recovery Data and Evaluation of the Newell Street Area II letter report, EPA requested that GE conduct additional investigations in the vicinity of well N2SC-01I. The purpose of the additional work requested is to gather more information on DNAPL occurrence and potential recovery. This letter presents a plan to install three additional observation/recovery wells in the vicinity of well N2SC-01I. Proposed observation/recovery well locations are shown on Figure 1. The wells are proposed in accordance with EPA's February 29, 2000 letter. The proposed locations relative to existing well N2SC-01I are west to southwest towards wells N2SC-02 and 03I (N2SC-13), northwest toward the river and recovery wells NS-15, 30, and 32 (N2SC-14), and southeast toward well N2SC-08 (N2SC-15). All proposed wells are located within 50 feet of N2SC-01I.

GE proposes to install the wells using the hollow stem auger drilling method. This drilling method has been successfully utilized at this site to install numerous monitoring wells in 1998 and 1999. The drill rig will be fitted with the ability to switch to the drive and wash drilling method if running sands become a problem. Continuous two-foot split spoon samples will be collected using the standard penetration test method (ASTM D1586). Recovered soil will be classified using the Unified Soil Classification System and field observations will be recorded on the well log for the boring. Field screening of soil samples will be performed by the head space method using a Photo Ionization Detector (PID). Soil samples will be visually inspected for the presence of NAPL. When field screening or visual observations indicate the possible presence of NAPL, water shake tests will be performed. Staining, sheens and NAPL observations will be noted on the boring logs. Since the primary purpose of the observation wells is to evaluate the presence of DNAPL and as soil samples have been collected and analyzed from several other borings previously installed in the area, chemical analyses are not proposed in these soil borings.

Previous investigations in the Newell Street Area have identified an areally extensive underlying till layer. Figure 1 shows the approximate elevation of this till layer. The proposed borings will be advanced until the till layer is reached. In the event that DNAPL is observed in a boring, the boring will be terminated at the top of the first confining layer encountered. The observation wells will be constructed of four-inch inside diameter Schedule 40 PVC with ten feet of .010 slot screen at the bottom and solid well casing extending above the screened interval to the land surface. Each observation well will be constructed with one-foot of solid casing below the screen to act as a DNAPL accumulation sump. The annulus will be filled with #0 filter sand to two feet above the screened interval. A two foot bentonite seal will be placed above the sand pack and the remaining annulus will be filled with Portland / Volclay grout to land surface. Observation wells will be finished at land surface with a "stick-up" protective casing. Well construction details will be included on the well logs.

The wells will be developed by alternate surging and bailing. A three to five-day DNAPL recovery test will be performed on each of the proposed new wells, N2SC-13, N2SC-14 and N2SC-15, after well development. During the recovery testing, DNAPL will be measured and recovered at regular intervals with adjustments to these removal intervals based on observed recovery.

Pending availability of a drilling contractor, it is anticipated that monitoring well installation can begin within approximately two weeks of the receipt of EPA approval of this proposal. Well development and DNAPL testing will be completed immediately following well installation. Data compilation, review and a report of findings will be submitted approximately four weeks after the completion of the DNAPL pumping tests. The report will describe any recommendations for further DNAPL monitoring and/or recovery in Newell Street Area II.

If you have any questions on this matter, feel free to contact me at (413) 494-3952.

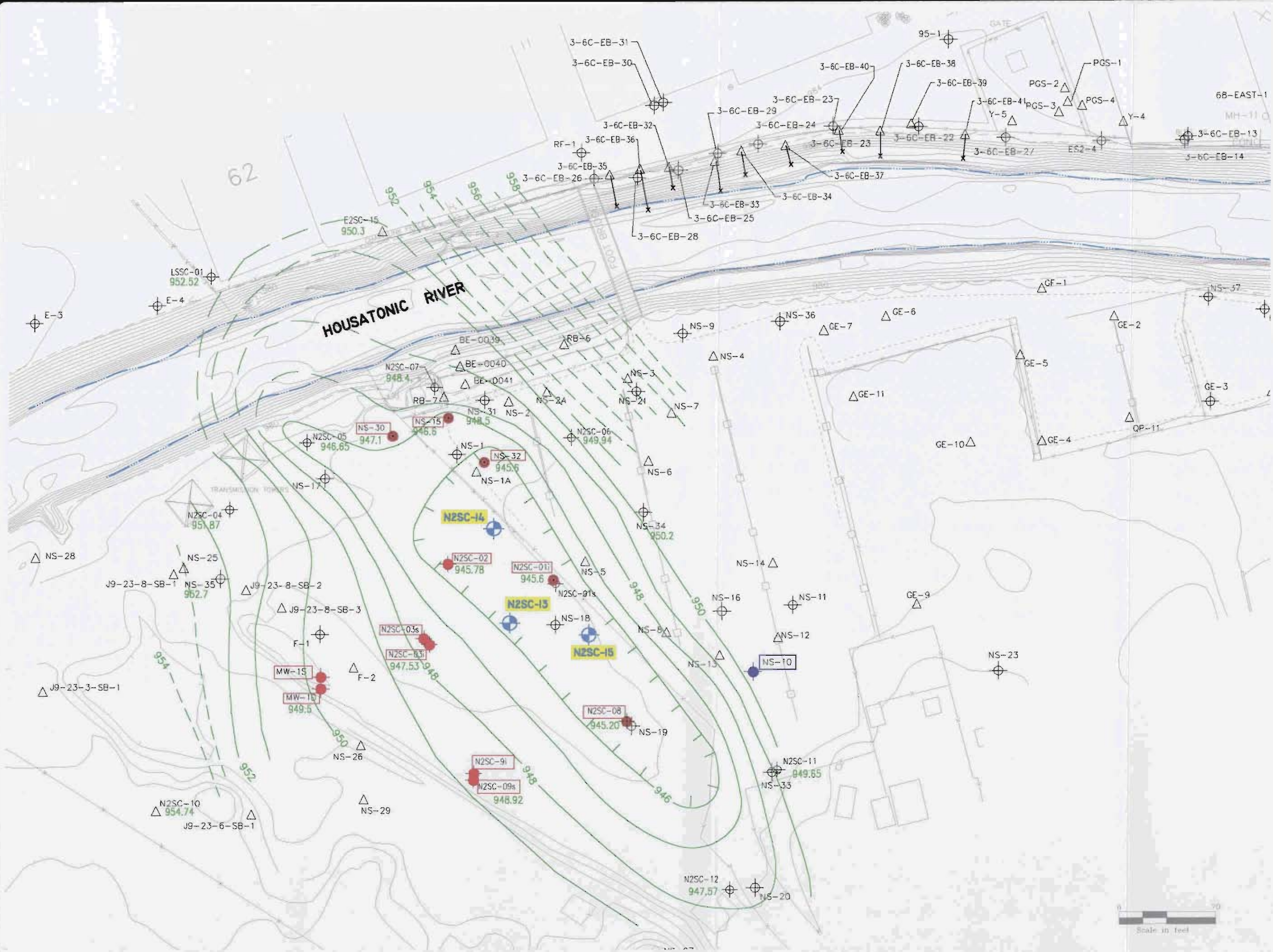
Sincerely,



John D. Ciampa
Remediation Project Manager

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Public Information Repositories ECL I-P-IV(A)(1)
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- EXPLANATION**
- N2SC-15** PROPOSED MONITORING WELL
 - ES2-1 MONITORING WELL
 - 64X(W) RECOVERY CAISSON
 - RW-1(X) DNAPL RECOVERY WELL
 - X-11 SOIL BORING
 - 3-6C-EB-37 ANGLED SOIL BORING
 - MEASURABLE DNAPL IN WELL
 - MEASURABLE LNAPL IN WELL
 - 961.2 TOP OF TILL ELEVATION
 - 946 TOP OF TILL CONTOUR 1 FOOT INTERVAL

NOTE: BASE MAP AND ALL DATA LOCATIONS PRIOR TO 1998 PROVIDED BY BLASLAND, BOUCK & LEE. ALL SOURCE CONTROL INVESTIGATION BORINGS AND WELL LOCATIONS PROVIDED BY HILL ENGINEERING.

3/15/00

Figure 1 Top of Till Contours and Proposed Monitoring Wells

