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United States Environmental Protection Agency EPA New England One Congress Street, Suite 1100 Boston, MA 02114-2023 RECEIVED

April 5, 2000

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Mr. John Ciampa
Corporate Environmental Programs
General Electric Company
100 Woodlawn Avenue
Pittsfield, Massachusetts 01201

BERKSHEE REO N. A MARK WAXW

RE: Conditional Approval of GE's March 30, 2000 submittal entitled Newell Street II (DEP #1-1057; USEPA Area 5B) Proposal for Additional DNAPL Recovery Operations GE-Pittsfield/Housatonic River Site

On March 30, 2000, General Electric (GE) submitted the above-referenced document to EPA and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). This report is subject to the terms and conditions specified in the Consent Decree that was lodged in District Court on October 7, 1999 (the "Consent Decree"). Pursuant to Paragraph 73(b) of the Consent Decree, EPA, after consulting with the Massachusetts DEP, approves the above-referenced submittal subject to the following condition:

The proposed DNAPL recovery systems for wells N2SC-02 and N2SC-03I are operational by June 30, 2000.

EPA's approval of this submittal does not preclude EPA from requiring additional investigations and response activities pursuant to the Consent Decree and/or the *Statement of Work for Removal Actions Outside the River* (Appendix E to the Consent Decree) in the future. Furthermore, in the event the Consent Decree does not get entered by the Court, EPA reserves the right to require additional investigations and response activities pursuant to its statutory and regulatory authorities reserved under the Consent Decree including, but not limited to, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act ("RCRA") and the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act ("CERCLA").

If you have any questions, please contact me at (617) 918-1282.

Sincerely,

Dean Tagliaferro

On-Scene Coordinator

cc: Andrew T. Silfer, P.E., GE
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