

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



SDMS DocID 00225360

May 2, 2005

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 submittal titled "*Newell Street Area II Groundwater and DNAPL Proposal*" GE-Pittsfield/Housatonic River Site, Pittsfield, Massachusetts.

Dear Mr. Silfer:

This letter provides the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) conditional approval the above-referenced "*Newell Street Area II Groundwater and DNAPL Proposal*" (Proposal) dated March 16, 2005. The Proposal 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.

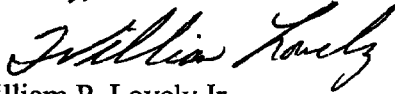
Pursuant to Paragraph 73 of the CD, EPA, after consultation with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP), approves the Proposal subject to the following conditions which are presented below.

1. Given the potential for "short circuiting" during the recovery well tests, GE shall closely monitor the recovery rates to ensure that the DNAPL in the vicinity of the recovery wells is not removed faster than it can be replenished at the desired radius of influence.
2. Regarding the proposed well abandonments, GE shall retain monitoring wells N2SC-04, N2SC-05, and N2SC-09 as part of the DNAPL monitoring program.
3. GE shall coordinate all DNAPL-related activities with the upcoming Newell Street Area II Removal Action which is tentatively scheduled to begin in July 2005. In particular, GE shall ensure that any monitoring well installation or abandonment activities are completed prior to the placement of the engineered barrier within the GE Newell Street Area II parking lot.

EPA reserves its right to perform additional sampling in the areas subject to the interim monitoring program and/or require additional sampling or response actions, if necessary, to meet the requirements of the Consent Decree.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (617) 918-1240.

Sincerely,



William P. Lovely Jr.
Remedial Project Manager
GE/Housatonic River Project

cc: John Novotny, GE
Michael Carroll, GE
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Pittsfield Commissioner of Public Health
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