



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



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236659

July 12, 2005

Mr. Andrew T. Silfer
Corporate Environmental Programs
General Electric Company
159 Plastics Avenue
Pittsfield, MA 01201

Via Electronic and U.S. Mail

Re: GE-Pittsfield/ Housatonic River Site
Groundwater Management Area 1(GECD310)
Modifications to Newell Street Area-II- DNAPL- Collection Systems

Dear Mr. Silfer:

This letter provides the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) conditional approval of GE's June 23, 2005 letter and an earlier letter from GE dated June 7, 2005 both regarding modifications to the Newell Street Area-II- DNAPL- collection systems. The proposed modifications are 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 letters subject to the following conditions, which are presented below.

1. GE shall submit to EPA for review and approval a proposal for the frequency of long-term manual DNAPL recovery for well N2SC-08. GE shall submit this proposal after six months of monthly manual DNAPL removal.
2. Instead of replacing the existing 2-inch diameter recovery wells (N2SC-1I and N2SC-03I) with new 6-inch wells, EPA recommends that GE consider converting the existing 2-inch wells into 6-inch diameter wells given that the 2-inch wells are already placed within highly productive DNAPL zones.

EPA reserves its right to perform additional sampling 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.
GE Facility Project Manager

cc:

D. Tagliaferro, US EPA	J. Novotny, GE
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