



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

May 10, 2006

Mr. Andrew 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 January 30, 2006 *GMA 1 Groundwater Quality Monitoring Interim Report for Fall 2005*, GE-Pittsfield/Housatonic River Site, Pittsfield, Massachusetts.

Dear Mr. Silfer:

This letter provides the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) conditional approval of GE's January 30, 2006 *GMA 1 Groundwater Quality Monitoring Interim Report for Fall 2005*. This letter 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 January 30, 2006 report, subject to the following conditions:


1. For clarification purposes, in future GMA 1 submittals, GE shall include in Section 3.2.3 the number of wells where PCB concentrations exceeded the GW-3 standard, as was done for other contaminants in Section 3.
2. GE shall include a discussion of groundwater elevation, flow direction, contaminant migration, and seasonal trends in future GMA 1 submittals or reference other reports where such information is discussed (i.e., GMA-1 NAPL reports). GE shall pay particular attention to well 139R where the GW-3 PCB standard was exceeded for the first time during this round and were there are no plans for soil removal activities.
3. For clarification purposes, in future GMA 1 submittals, in Appendix C, GE shall depict (1) the total VOC criteria of 5 ppm on the VOC graphs of all GW-2 wells, (2) the GW-3 criteria of 0.0003 ppm on the PCB graphs, and (3) the GW-3 criteria of 0.5 ppm on the chlorobenzene graphs.

4. GE shall install four additional monitoring wells designed to monitor groundwater quality and water table elevations around the perimeter of the Newell Street Area II Removal Action Area (see attached figure). Groundwater elevations from those wells, along with existing water table wells (GMA1-8, GMA1-9, MW-1S, N2SC-7S, N2SC-9S, NS-9, NS-10, NS-16, NS-17, NS-20 and NS-37) shall be monitored on a quarterly basis for a period of one year to define groundwater flow patterns around Newell Street Area II. The results of that monitoring shall be incorporated into the groundwater flow mapping included in GE's groundwater quality and NAPL monitoring reports and taken into consideration in subsequent groundwater quality monitoring interim reports for this area.

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) 918-1328.

Sincerely,



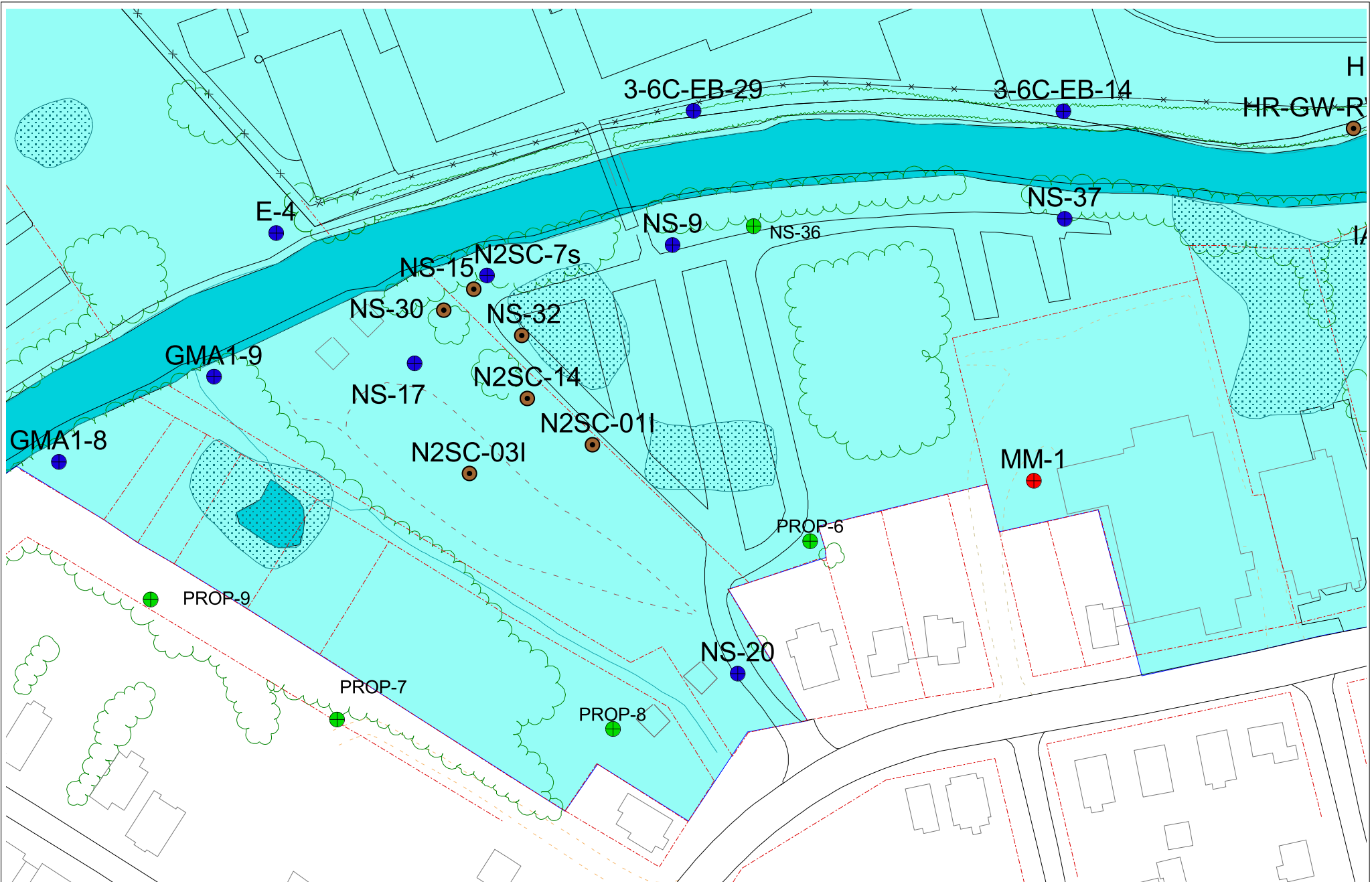
Sharon M. Hayes  
GE Facility Project Manager

Attachment

cc:

Dean Tagliaferro, EPA  
Tim Conway, EPA  
Rose Howell, EPA  
Holly Inglis, EPA  
Sue Steenstrup, MDEP  
Anna Symington, MDEP  
Jane Rothchild, MDEP  
Thomas Angus, MDEP  
Nancy E. Harper, MA AG  
K.C. Mitkevicius, USACE  
Mayor James Ruberto, City of Pittsfield  
Pittsfield Department of Health

Tom Hickey, PEDA  
Rod McLaren, GE  
Mike Carroll, GE  
John Novotny, GE  
James Nuss, BBL  
James Bieke, Goodwin Procter LLP  
Linda Palmieri, Weston Solutions  
Dale Young, MA EOEA  
Teresa Bowers, Gradient  
Jeffrey Bernstein, Bernstein, Cushner & Kimmell  
Public Information Repository (Berkshire Athenaeum)

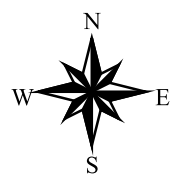
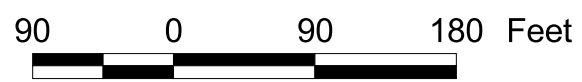


**Existing GMA Monitoring Points**

- GW-2/3 compliance well
- GW-3 compliance well
- Groundwater Elevation well

**Proposed GMA Monitoring Points**

- Monitoring well



GE/Housatonic River Project  
Draft-Confidential

**Figure 1**  
**Newell Street Area II**  
**Proposed Monitoring Wells**