



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

July 11, 2006

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 *Groundwater Management Area 3 Soil Gas Investigation Work Plan*, GE-Pittsfield/Housatonic River Site, Pittsfield, Massachusetts.

Dear Mr. Silfer:

This letter contains the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) conditional approval of General Electric's *Groundwater Management Area 3 Soil Gas Investigation Work Plan*, (Work Plan) submitted on May 31, 2006. The Work Plan 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.

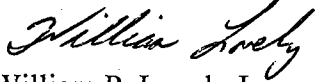
Pursuant to Paragraph 73 of the CD, EPA, after consultation with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP), approves the Work Plan subject to the conditions presented below.

1. EPA does not agree with the proposed soil gas sampling analyte list shown on Table 2 of the Work Plan. GE shall analyze the soil gas for VOCs in air by EPA TO-15 and report all analytes detected in the soil gas samples, including, but not limited to Trichloroethene, 1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene, and Napthalene.
2. In addition to the collection of soil gas samples, GE shall consider collecting groundwater and NAPL samples from wells 51-8, GMA 3-10, and UB-PZ-3 at the same time the soil gas sample is collected. The groundwater and NAPL samples would be analyzed for the same list of analytes (i.e., VOCs) as the soil gas samples, and the results of the analysis would be used in the event that GE's assessment of the soil gas data indicate the need for further evaluations or other action.

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
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