



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 1
1 CONGRESS STREET, SUITE 1100
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02114-2023

05-0123
SDMS 210660

March 29, 2004

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

Via Electronic and U.S. Mail

Re: Conditional Approval of General Electric's January 28, 2004 *Former Oxbow Areas J and K, Preliminary Remedial Evaluations and Proposal for Supplemental Pre-design Investigation*, GE-Pittsfield/Housatonic River Site, Pittsfield, Massachusetts.

Dear Mr. Silfer:

This letter contains the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) conditional approval of the pre-design investigation activities described in the above-referenced "*Former Oxbow Areas J and K, Preliminary Remedial Evaluations and Proposal for Supplemental Pre-design Investigation*" (Proposal). 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 above-referenced submittal subject to the following conditions:

1. GE shall collect an Appendix IX+3 sample from the 6- to 10-foot depth interval in the vicinity of sample location RAA15-C6, and within the historical oxbow area, to better characterize the northern portion of recreational area R2.
2. In Subsection 2.4, GE shall discuss the adequacy of the polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) near location RAA15-E11 in the Conceptual Remedial Design/Remedial Action submittal.
3. In Subsection 2.4.1, GE proposes to conduct additional sampling in the vicinity of sample locations RAA15-E7 and RAA15-E8. However later in this section, GE references the sample locations as RAA17-E7 and RAA17-E8, rather than RAA15-E7 and RAA15-E8. The actual field locations shall be accurately depicted in future submittals.

GE shall conduct supplemental Appendix IX+3 sampling within 2 months of the date of this letter and shall submit the Supplemental PDI Report to EPA within 3 months of the date of this letter.

If there is any conflict between the Performance Standards as described in the Report and as set forth in the Consent Decree and/or Statement of Work for Removal Actions Outside the River (Appendix E to the Consent Decree), the Statement of Work shall control. EPA reserves its right to perform additional sampling in the areas subject to Proposal and/or require additional sampling or response actions, if necessary, pursuant to the Consent Decree.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (617) 918-1268.

Sincerely,



Michael J. Nalipinski
GE Facility Project Manager

cc: Richard Gates,	GE
James Bieke,	Shea & Gardner
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