



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

05-0105

August 26, 2002

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

Re: Conditional Approval of General Electric Company's (GE) August 20, 2002 *Newell Street Area I Revised Proposal for Supplemental Pre-Design Soil Investigations*, GE Housatonic River Project Site, Pittsfield, Massachusetts.

Dear Mr. Silfer:

In December 2001, GE submitted a document entitled *Conceptual Removal Design/Removal Action Work Plan for Newell Street Area I* (Conceptual RD/RA Work Plan), in accordance with the requirements of the Consent Decree (CD) entered on October 27, 2000 by the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts, and between GE, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP), and other agencies. EPA provided comment on the Conceptual RD/RA Work Plan in the May 24, 2002 letter: *Comments on General Electric Company's (GE) December 2001 Conceptual Removal Design/Removal Action Work Plan for Newell Street Area I*. GE prepared the *Newell Street Area I Proposal for Supplemental Pre-Design Soil Investigations* document in response to EPA's May 24, 2002 comments and conversations between GE, EPA and the MDEP. EPA provided comments on that sampling proposal on August 5, 2002. GE then submitted the *Newell Street I Revised Proposal for Supplemental Pre-Design Investigations* on August 20, 2002.

This *Newell Street Area I Revised Proposal for Supplemental Pre-Design Soil Investigations* (Proposal) is subject to the terms and conditions specified in the Consent Decree (CD). Pursuant to Paragraph 73 of the CD, EPA, after consultation with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP), approves the above referenced submittal. EPA reserves its right to perform additional sampling in Newell Street Area I and/or require additional sampling or Response Actions, if necessary, to meet the requirements of the Consent Decree.

GE shall submit an addendum to the Conceptual RD/RA Work Plan within 4 months of the date of this letter. If you have any questions, please contact me at (617) 918-1365.

Sincerely,

Bryan Olson
GE/Housatonic Team Leader

cc: Dick Gates, GE
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