



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

01-0650  
SDMS 200116

October 2, 2003

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 2003 *Newell Street Area II Supplemental Pre-Design Investigation Report*, GE Housatonic River Project Site, Pittsfield, Massachusetts.**

Dear Mr. Silfer:

This letter contains the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) conditional approval of the pre-design investigation activities for the above-referenced *Newell Street Area II Supplemental Pre-Design Investigation Report* (Report). The Report 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 conditions outlined below.

GE proposes to proceed with the development of the Conceptual Remedial Design/Remedial Action (RD/RA) Work Plan Action and to propose to EPA the need for additional data to support the Conceptual RD/RA. In making that decision, GE should pay particular attention to Appendix IX data needs in the vicinity of G-92 and F-91 in order to ensure that elevated dioxin and lead levels do not extend into parcel J9-23-6. If additional data is necessary, GE must propose the scope of the sampling effort within 4 months of the date of this letter. Following EPA's approval of the sampling proposal, GE must conduct the sampling and submit the Conceptual RD/RA Work Plan within 2 months of the date of EPA's approval of the sampling plan. If no additional sampling is necessary, GE must submit the RD/RA within 5 months of the date of this letter.

EPA reserves its right to perform additional sampling in Newell Street Area II 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) 918-1365.

Sincerely,

Bryan Olson  
GE/Housatonic Team Leader

cc: Dick Gates, GE  
Sue Steenstrup, MDEP  
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Dawn Jamros, Weston Solutions, Inc. ✓  
Pittsfield MA Office, US EPA  
Mayor Sara Hathaway, City of Pittsfield  
Newell II Property Owners  
Public Information Repositories (4)