

United States Environmental Protection Agency
EPA New England
One Congress Street, Suite 1100
Boston, MA 02114-2023

September 25, 2002

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

**RE: Conditional Approval of GE's submittal entitled *Isolation Layer TOC Sampling*
Upper ½-Mile Reach Removal Action
General Electric-Pittsfield/Housatonic River Site**

Dear Mr. Silfer:

On September 9, 2002, GE submitted the above-referenced document to EPA for approval. The submittal consisted of two separate field investigation activities and report submittal. The field activities consist of sampling the isolation layer in 21 locations for percent TOC and the installation of three seepage meters. EPA reviewed the proposed TOC investigative procedures and concurs with the proposed approach. EPA is currently reviewing the seepage meter SOP and expects to complete this review shortly. However, since the collection of the samples from the isolation layer is dependent on low flow conditions, which currently exist in the river, EPA believes its prudent to expedite the collection of these samples.

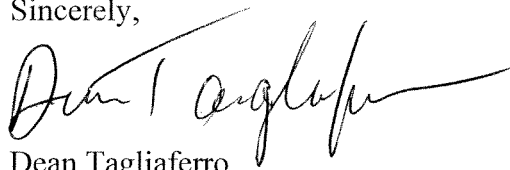
Therefore, pursuant to the Upper ½-Mile Reach Removal Action Work Plan and Paragraph 73.b of the Consent Decree, EPA, after consulting with the Massachusetts DEP, is hereby conditionally approving the above-referenced submittal subject to following conditions:

1. The installation of the seepage meters shall be postponed until EPA completes its review of the proposed SOP and locations and resolves any outstanding issues with GE.
2. GE provides EPA with 5 working days notice prior to collecting the samples to allow for EPA contractor's to perform oversight activities and collect split samples.
3. GE collect sufficient sample volume to allow EPA to collect a split sample at each sampling location.

EPA's approval of this submittal does not preclude EPA from requiring additional investigations and response activities pursuant to the Consent Decree, the Upper ½-Mile Reach Removal Action Work Plan and/or the *Statement of Work for Removal Actions Outside the River* (Appendix E to the Consent Decree).

If you have any questions, please contact me at (413) 236-0969.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dean Tagliaferro", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dean Tagliaferro

cc: Tim Conway, EPA
Bryan Olson, EPA
Mike Nalipinski, EPA
Holly Inglis, EPA
Sue Steenstrup, DEP (2 copies)
Mark Gravelding, BBL
Judy Morris, Weston
Public Information Repositories
Site File