



08-0019
SDMS: 159008

Corporate Environmental Programs
General Electric Company
100 Woolawm Avenue, Pittsfield, MA 01201

September 20, 2000

Bryan Olson
EPA Project Coordinator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
One Congress Street, Suite 1100
Boston, MA 02214-2023

**Re: GE-Pittsfield/Housatonic River Site
Upper ½-Mile Reach Removal Action (GECD800)
Proposal to Install Monitoring Wells Adjacent to Cells G1/G2**

Dear Mr. Olson:

On July 11, 2000, GE submitted a document entitled *Results of Cell G1 DNAPL Investigation and Proposal to Address the Presence of DNAPL in Cell G1*. Subsequently, with a letter dated July 19, 2000, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), after consultation with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP), granted conditional approval of that proposal. In accordance with the EPA's July 19, 2000 conditional approval letter, GE is submitting this proposal for the installation of three monitoring wells in the vicinity of the Upper ½-Mile Reach Removal Action excavation for Cells G1/G2. The three monitoring wells are being installed at and adjacent to an area where DNAPL was previously observed and a steel-sheetpile containment barrier has been installed (see Figure 1). Details pertaining to the installation of the three monitoring wells are further discussed below.

As requested by EPA, GE will install three monitoring wells on the landward side (i.e., north) of the previously installed containment barrier, as shown on Figure 1. This barrier, which is approximately 105 feet in length and composed of steel-sheetpile with sealed joints, was installed between July and September 2000 to address the presence of DNAPL in the bank adjacent to Cells G1/G2. Specifically, GE will install two perimeter monitoring wells at the east and west ends of the containment barrier, respectively, and one well between the ends of the containment barrier. The installation of the monitoring wells will be accomplished using a truck-mounted drill rig and hollow-stem auger (HSA) methods. A standard truck-mounted 4-inch HSA will be used to install the 2-inch diameter wells. Also, a minimum distance of 10 feet will be maintained undisturbed between the containment barrier and the edge of the auger. In accordance with the grouting contractor's recommendation, the wells will be installed a minimum of 7 days following completion of the grouting.

During well installation, construction details and actual field measurements will be recorded by a supervising geologist and all materials used (e.g., screen and riser footage, bags of bentonite, cement, and sand) will be tabulated in a field logbook. The monitoring well will be installed using 2-inch diameter stainless steel risers and slotted screens with flush-mount surface completions. A monitoring well construction detail will be prepared for each well following installation. The two perimeter wells will be advanced to an approximate elevation of 963 feet above mean sea level (AMSL) and the screens will extend from an elevation of approximately 963 feet to 973 feet AMSL. The center well will be advanced to the top of till and will be screened from the top of till to an approximate elevation of 973 feet AMSL.

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Page 2 of 2

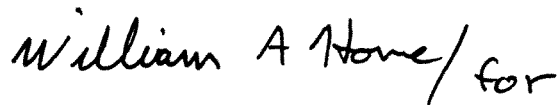
AMSL. Following well installation, the wells will be locked and the area will be restored to its existing condition. After a period of at least 24 hours after well installation, the wells will be developed using alternating surging and pumping methods. Well installation and development activities will be performed in accordance with the *Field Sampling Plan/Quality Assurance Project Plan (FSP/QAPP)* (BBL, January 2000, currently under revision to address EPA and MDEP comments).

Following well development, GE will initially monitor the perimeter wells on a weekly basis to confirm that DNAPL is not present outside the limits of the containment barrier. In addition, GE will monitor the center well on a weekly basis for the presence of DNAPL and will assess whether additional investigative or response actions are appropriate. GE anticipates that installation of these wells will be initiated within 2 weeks of EPA approval of this proposal. Also, GE will submit an evaluation of the results of the first four weekly monitoring events and the potential need for additional investigative or response actions in this area within 6 weeks following initiation of weekly monitoring of the wells.

Additionally, GE proposes that the center well also be used to fulfill EPA's request for an additional well (EPA-4) identified in its comment letter (dated August 24, 2000) on GE's April 2000 *Baseline Monitoring Program Proposal for Plant Site I Groundwater Management Area*.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact William Horne or me in the GE Pittsfield office.

Very truly yours,





Handwritten signature of William A. Horne, with the word "for" written below the signature.

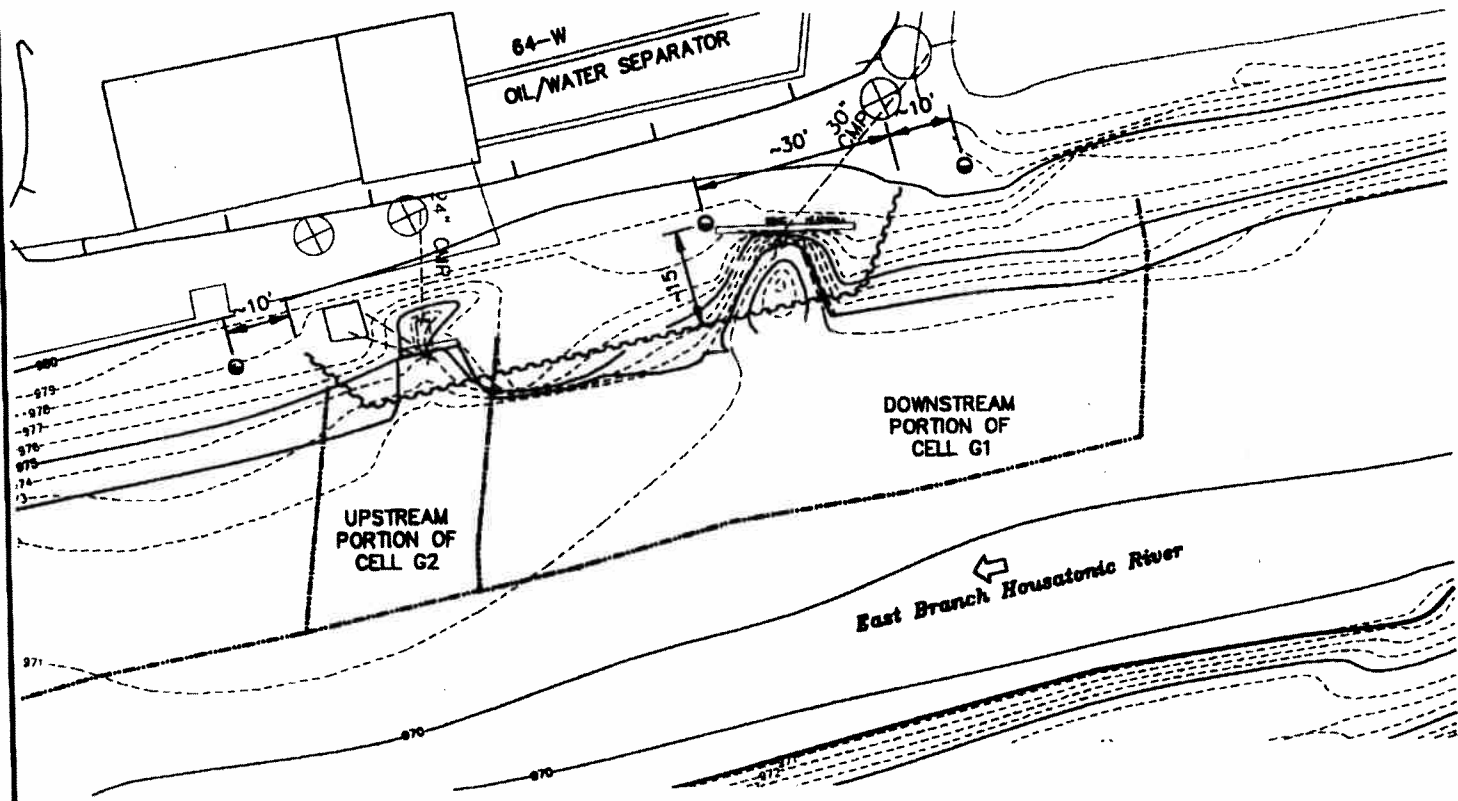
Andrew T. Silber, P.E.
GE Project Coordinator

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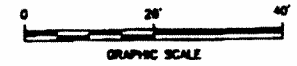


LEGEND:

-  EXCAVATION SHEETPILE
-  CONTAINMENT BARRIER
-  PROPOSED MONITORING WELL LOCATION
-  GROUND ELEVATION CONTOUR (PRIOR TO EXCAVATION)



- NOTES:**
1. BASE MAP BY DESIGN GROUP, INC. 2 FEDERICO DRIVE, PITTSFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS 01201, "SKETCH PLAN OF G1 AND G2 BORING LOCATIONS", DATED JUNE 23, 2000.



GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY PITTSFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS REMOVAL ACTION UPPER 1/2-MILE REACH OF HOUSATONIC RIVER	
PROPOSED MONITORING WELL LOCATIONS	
BBL <small>BARRY BROWN & LEE, INC. engineers & scientists</small>	FIGURE 1

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