



GE
159 Plastics Avenue
Pittsfield, MA 01201
USA

Transmitted via Overnight Courier

December 18, 2008

Mr. Dean Tagliaferro
EPA Project Coordinator
United States Environmental Protection Agency
c/o Weston Solutions, Inc.
10 Lyman Street
Pittsfield, MA 01201

Ms. Susan Steenstrup
Program Supervisor, Special Projects
Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup
Department of Environmental Protection
436 Dwight Street
Springfield, MA 01103

**Re: GE-Pittsfield/Housatonic River Site
Floodplain Non-Residential Properties Adjacent to 1½ Mile Reach of Housatonic River
(GECD720)
Summary of 2008 Conditional Solution Inspection at Parcel I7-1-5**

Dear Mr. Tagliaferro and Ms. Steenstrup:

On November 21, 2008, the General Electric Company (GE) performed the first inspection of Parcel I7-1-5, located within the floodplain adjacent to the 1½ Mile Reach of the Housatonic River, at which a Conditional Solution has been implemented under the Consent Decree (CD) for the GE-Pittsfield/Housatonic River Site. GE sent a letter to the owner of Parcel I7-1-5, Western Massachusetts Electric Company (WMECo), on April 17, 2008, notifying WMECo of the implementation of a Conditional Solution at its property. For such non-GE owned properties at which a Conditional Solution has been implemented, the CD requires certain annual post-remediation review and inspection activities.

Once the Final Completion Report for the Housatonic River Non-Residential Floodplain Properties has been finalized, it will establish the final requirements for the performance of the annual Conditional Solution inspections of Parcel I7-1-5. In the meantime, for purposes of the 2008 inspection, GE followed the procedures outlined in Paragraphs 36 and 38 and Appendix Q of the CD, with the modifications on which GE and EPA have agreed for such inspections at other areas subject to the CD.

As part of these activities, GE reviewed the most recent property records from the Pittsfield Tax Assessor's Office, as well as the deed records at the Berkshire Middle District Registry of Deeds, and determined there has not been a change in ownership of Parcel I7-1-5. In addition, GE reviewed the description of the Conditional Solution in the *Removal Design/Removal Action Work Plan for the Phase 4 Floodplain Properties* (RD/RA Work Plan; August 2005), as well as the technical drawings from that work plan (as revised in GE's *Addendum to Removal Design/Removal Action Work Plan for the Phase 4 Floodplain Properties* [RD/RA Work Plan Addendum]), which depict anticipated post-remediation site features and topography.

GE also conducted a visual site inspection of the property to evaluate whether any of the following have occurred since completion of the remediation activities and implementation of the Conditional Solution:

- Any change in activities or uses of the property that would be potentially inconsistent with the land use for which the Conditional Solution was implemented (i.e., recreational use);
- Installation of a new utility or repair or replacement of an existing utility that involved disturbance of soil;
- Any excavations, construction, or other activities or conditions that resulted in the disturbance of 10 cubic yards of soil or greater, regardless of depth; and
- If any of the activities in the two preceding bullets are noted, any alteration of the surface grade, compared to that shown in the relevant technical drawings from the RD/RA Work Plan, as revised in the RD/RA Work Plan Addendum (or any more recent plan that GE proposes and EPA approves).

The results of the November 2008 inspection were documented in an Annual Inspection Checklist for Parcel I7-1-5. A copy of the completed form is attached. As documented in that form, the property record review indicated that there has been no change in ownership of this property and the inspection showed no visual evidence of any of the above-listed activities or conditions at this property since the implementation of the Conditional Solution.

As required by the CD, this property will be inspected annually. Following each inspection, an inspection report will be prepared and submitted to EPA and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection.

Please call me if you have any comments or questions.

Sincerely

Richard Gates, EGB

Richard Gates
Remediation Project Manager

Attachments

cc: Rose Howell, EPA*
Holly Inglis, EPA
Tim Conway, EPA
John Kilborn, EPA*
Michael Gorski, MDEP*
Jane Rothchild, MDEP*
Joanne Flescher, MDEP*
Nancy E. Harper, MA AG*
Mayor James Ruberto, City of Pittsfield*
Linda Palmieri, Weston

Michael Carroll, GE*
Rod McLaren, GE*
James Nuss, ARCADIS
James Bieke, Goodwin Procter
Robert Dvorchik, WMECo
Charles J. Nicol, Northeast Utilities
Salvatore Giuliano, WMECo
John Tulloch, WMECo
GE Internal Repository

** cover letter only*

CONDITIONAL SOLUTION ANNUAL INSPECTION CHECKLIST

HOUSATONIC RIVER (1.5-MILE REACH)
NON-RESIDENTIAL FLOODPLAIN PROPERTIES

PARCEL NUMBER 17-1-5

DOCUMENT REVIEW

Conducted By: Paolo Filippetti, ARCADIS
Representing: GE

Phone Number: (585) 770-4702
Review Start Date: 11/21/2008

- Check here to confirm that the description of the Conditional Solution for this property in the *Removal Design/Removal Action Work Plan for the Phase 4 Floodplain Properties* (RD/RA Work Plan), the technical drawings included in Appendix A of that document, as revised in the *Addendum to Removal Design/Removal Action Work Plan for the Phase 4 Floodplain Properties* (RD/RA Work Plan Addendum) (and any alternative plan proposed by GE for the comparison described in Item 5 on next page), and any subsequent work plan(s) approved and implemented pursuant to Paragraph 35 of the Consent Decree have been reviewed.
- Check here to confirm that the most recent property records from the Pittsfield Tax Assessor's Office and the property deed at the Berkshire Middle District Registry of Deeds for this property have been reviewed.
- Has there been a change in ownership of this property?
 No
 Yes - If yes, list the new owner's name and mailing address below and indicate whether a notice of the Conditional Solution has been or will be sent to the new owner.

4. Review Completed Date: 12/4/2008

VISUAL SITE INSPECTION

Conducted By: Paolo Filippetti, ARCADIS
Representing: GE

Phone Number: (585) 770-4702
Inspection Start Date: 11/21/2008

- List other individuals and their company/agency that were present during the visual site inspection.
Mike Argue - Weston Solutions, Inc.

- Is there any visual evidence of changes in activities and uses of the property since the last inspection that are potentially inconsistent with the land use for which the Conditional Solution was implemented (i.e., recreational use)?
 No
 Yes - If yes, describe below.

- Is there any visual evidence of installation of a new utility or repair or replacement of an existing utility that involved disturbance of soil within the property since the last inspection?
 No
 Yes - If yes, describe below and show the location(s) of such activity on a plan.

CONDITIONAL SOLUTION ANNUAL INSPECTION CHECKLIST

**HOUSATONIC RIVER (1.5-MILE REACH)
NON-RESIDENTIAL FLOODPLAIN PROPERTIES**

4. Is there any visual evidence of excavations, construction, or other activities or conditions that resulted in the disturbance of 10 cubic yards of soil or greater, regardless of depth, within the property?

No

Yes - If yes, describe below and show the location(s) of such activity on a plan.

5. If any of the conditions listed in the responses to Questions 3 and 4 appears to have altered the surface grade of the property compared to the surface grade shown on the technical drawings included in Appendix A of the RD/RA Work Plan, as revised in the RD/RA Work Plan Addendum (or an alternative, more recent plan proposed by GE), identify the approximate area/location(s) of such grade change on a plan and compare the new surface grade in such area(s) to the surface grade in the above-listed drawings and/or plan. (If GE proposes use of an alternative plan for this comparison, include a copy of that plan and describe the rationale for its proposed use.)

6. Inspection Completed Date: 11/21/2008