



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
ONE CONGRESS STREET, SUITE 1100
BOSTON, MA 02114-2023

November 3, 2004

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

Via Electronic and U.S. Mail

Re: Conditional Approval of General Electric's Interim Pre-Design Investigation Report and Addendum for Phase 3 Floodplain Properties, Group 3A, 3B, 3C, and 3D
GE-Pittsfield/Housatonic River Site, Pittsfield, Massachusetts.

Dear Mr. Silfer:

This letter presents the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) conditional approval for the *Interim Pre-Design Investigation Report Addendum for Phase 3 Floodplain Properties* (Report), dated October 21, 2004. The Report is an amendment to the *Interim Pre-Design Investigation Report for Phase 3 Floodplain Properties, Groups 3A, 3B, 3C, and 3D* dated August 13, 2004. 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, 2002.

Pursuant to Paragraph 73 of the CD, EPA, after consultation with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP), approves the Report subject to the conditions presented below.

1. Table 3 presents proposed "X" depths for RD/RA evaluations for each of the parcels. EPA does not believe that it is appropriate to define "X" values until after all the PCB samples are collected and analyzed. Consequently, EPA does not approve GE's proposal to use the "X" depths presented in the table for RD/RA evaluations.
2. Based on the PCB sampling data presented in the Report, GE shall collect an additional Appendix IX+3 sample at the 1-3 foot interval from each of the sampling locations where a sample from the 3-5 foot depth interval is proposed.

GE shall complete the proposed investigations presented in this Report within 45 days of the date of this letter. GE shall present the results of the proposed investigations in two Second Pre-Design Investigation Reports. The first report shall address properties in Groups 3A and 3B and shall be submitted within 3 months of the date of this letter. The second report shall address properties in Group 3C and 3D and shall be submitted within 4 months of the date of this letter. Each report shall

include a proposed "X" depth interval to be used for RD/RA evaluations. The schedule set forth in this paragraph would be subject to revision if: 1) the property owners raise new issues affecting access that would delay the timely completion of these investigations; 2) weather conditions preclude the timely completion of the sampling; or 3) EPA's activities relating to the 1 ½ Mile Reach Removal Action preclude the collection of the samples at the designated locations.

EPA reserves its right to perform and/or require additional sampling and/or Response Actions, if necessary, to meet the requirements of the Consent Decree.

Please contact me at (617) 918-1240 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



William P. Lovely Jr.
Remedial Project Manager
GE/Housatonic River Project

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Affected Property Owners