



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

January 5, 2007

Mr. Richard Gates, Remediation Project Manager
Corporate Environmental Programs
General Electric Company
159 Plastics Avenue
Pittsfield, MA 01201

Via Electronic and U.S. Mail

Re: Conditional Approval of General Electric's October 20, 2006 submittal titled *Hill 78 On-Plant Consolidation Area Re-routing of Sanitary and Storm Water Pipelines*, GE-Pittsfield/Housatonic River Site, Pittsfield, Massachusetts.

Dear Mr. Gates:

This letter provides the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) conditional approval of GE's October 20, 2006 submittal titled *Hill 78 On-Plant Consolidation Area Re-routing of Sanitary and Storm Water Pipelines*. This letter 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, in consultation with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, approves the October 20, 2006 letter, subject to the following conditions:

1. GE shall submit a proposal for additional soil sampling to further characterize soils along the proposed alignment of the new pipe installations. The proposal shall be designed to demonstrate how the spatial average of the PCBs in the pipeline trench backfill will be 25 ppm or below. The proposal shall take into account the location, depth and trench sloping requirements of the proposed pipelines and the availability of usable pre-design soil data.
2. GE shall conduct the sampling according to the proposal as approved and provide the results of that sampling in a detailed pipeline design submittal and soil handling plan. The soil handling plan shall include an evaluation of (a) the possible re-use of the existing material as trench backfill so as to ensure that the spatial average PCB concentration is less than 25 ppm, (b) whether backfill materials from an off-site location will be used, and (c) the disposition of excess soils not used for backfill.
3. EPA does not agree that the 200 ppm at 1- to 6-foot depth increment criterion is not applicable to this utility relocation. However, because it is anticipated, based on existing PCB data from the Hill 78 Remainder RAA, that the spatial average of PCBs along the

proposed utility corridor at the 1- to 6-foot depth increment will be below 200 ppm, EPA will not require that GE evaluate for this criterion for this utility relocation.

4. GE shall provide, along with the proposal for additional soil sampling, a summary of the existing Appendix IX +3 data that is located within the proposed 50 foot corridors for both the sewer and the storm water pipelines to the depth of the pipeline trenches.
5. GE shall incorporate all analytical data generated as part of any utility corridor soil characterization into the characterization for the Hill 78 Remainder RAA and the subsequent preparation of the Hill 78 Remainder Conceptual RD/RA.
6. Upon discontinued use, and prior to grouting of the existing sanitary sewer pipeline, GE, subject to City of Pittsfield approval, shall flush all remaining sewage from the pipeline into the downstream piping.

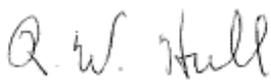
GE shall comply with all applicable existing local, State and federal requirements for the installation of the storm water and sewer lines. This letter shall not affect any of GE's obligations under the Clean Water Act, including, without limitation, its obligations under any National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit or under any regulations promulgated under the Clean Water Act.

GE shall submit a proposal for additional sampling within 45 days of the date of this letter. That proposal shall include a timetable for the performance of the sampling and submittal of the sampling results, detailed design of the piping installation, and a plan for the disposition of the excavated soil. GE shall submit such final pipeline design to EPA for its information but not for its approval.

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

If you have any questions, please contact me at (617) 918-1882.

Sincerely,



Richard W. Hull
GE Facility Project Manager

cc:

Dean Tagliaferro, EPA
John Kilborn, EPA
Tim Conway, EPA
Holly Inglis, EPA
Rose Howell, EPA

Bruce Collingwood, City of Pittsfield
Public Information Repository (Berkshire Athenaeum)
Tom Hickey, PEDDA
Rod McLaren, GE
Mike Carroll, GE

Thomas Angus, MDEP
Sue Steenstrup, MDEP
Anna Symington, MDEP
Jane Rothchild, MDEP
Nancy E. Harper, MA AG
K.C. Mitkevicius, USACE
Mayor James Ruberto, City of Pittsfield
Matt Billetter, City of Pittsfield
Pittsfield Department of Health

Andrew Silber, GE
James Nuss, BBL
James Bieke, Goodwin Procter
Laurence Kirsch, Goodwin Procter
Linda Palmieri, Weston Solutions
Dale Young, MA EOE
Jeffrey Bernstein, Bernstein, Cushner & Kimmell