



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

September 11, 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 July 3, 2007, submittal titled *Supplemental Sampling and Engineering Design Report for 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 July 3, 2007, submittal titled *Supplemental Sampling and Engineering Design Report for Re-routing of Sanitary and Storm Water Pipelines* (the "Sampling and Design Report"). 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 Sampling and Design Report, subject to the following conditions:

1. GE shall remove all soils within the polygon associated with location RAA9-J10, to a depth of one foot, prior to the initiation of any excavation or stockpiling activities associated with the sewer rerouting project, and not just the portion of the polygon that falls within the new utility corridor. If the Hill 78 Remainder remediation occurs prior to the sewer rerouting project, the removal shall occur as part of the Hill 78 Remainder remediation.
2. In the Addendum to the Sampling and Design Report described below, GE shall include a contingency plan similar to the plan specified in Attachment B to the April 4, 2006 *Addendum to the Final Removal Design/Removal Action Work Plan for Lyman Street Area* to address any drums, containers, capacitors or other vessels that are encountered during the performance of the sewer re-routing activities. In addition, in performance of the pipeline work, GE shall require that its contractors prepare their own health and safety plan that at least complies with the requirements of GE's *Site Health and Safety Plan* (HASp).

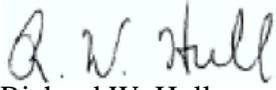
3. GE shall submit to EPA for approval the off-site sources of material to be used as backfill and the analytical results used to characterize the material, prior to use of the material on-site. Characterization of the materials shall be conducted in accordance with Attachment B of the Project Operations Plan (POP).
4. GE shall specify what clearing and restoration activities will occur as part of the rerouting of the sewers, including the extent of tree removal associated with the project and plans for restoration and replacement. The plans for tree restoration and replacement associated with the rerouting of the sewers shall be incorporated into the plan for tree restoration and replacement activities being prepared in accordance with the requirements of conditions #1 and #5 of EPA's June 19, 2007 conditional approval letter for GE's April 13, 2007 submittal titled *Hill 78 On-Plant Consolidation Area Phase III Final Cover Installation Activities*.
5. GE shall specify dust control measures that will be implemented during excavation and construction, as well as the frequency of particulate monitoring and PCB air sampling during the project, consistent with measures implemented during construction activities at other RAAs and with Attachment D of the POP.
6. GE shall specify how the excavated material will be segregated and backfilled such that soil currently in the 0-1 foot, 1-6 foot and 6-15 foot depth intervals will be backfilled in the same interval and same general location. Alternatively, GE shall provide an explanation as to how the backfilling, if not performed as described above, will impact the characterization of the Hill 78 Remainder RAA and the subsequent Conceptual RD/RA evaluation.
7. As part of the characterization of the soils located within the proposed storm and sanitary sewer corridors, GE did not include sample results from the area where it is proposing to extend the storm sewer above ground beyond the location where it "daylights". Accordingly, GE shall confirm that no remediation is required for the proposed work area beginning where the storm sewer pipeline currently daylights extending all the way to the RAA boundary.

GE shall submit an addendum to the Sampling and Design Report addressing the conditions above within 21 days of the date of this letter.

EPA reserves all of its rights under the CD, including but not limited to, the 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R. W. Hull". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above the printed name.

Richard W. Hull

GE Facility Project Manager

cc:

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