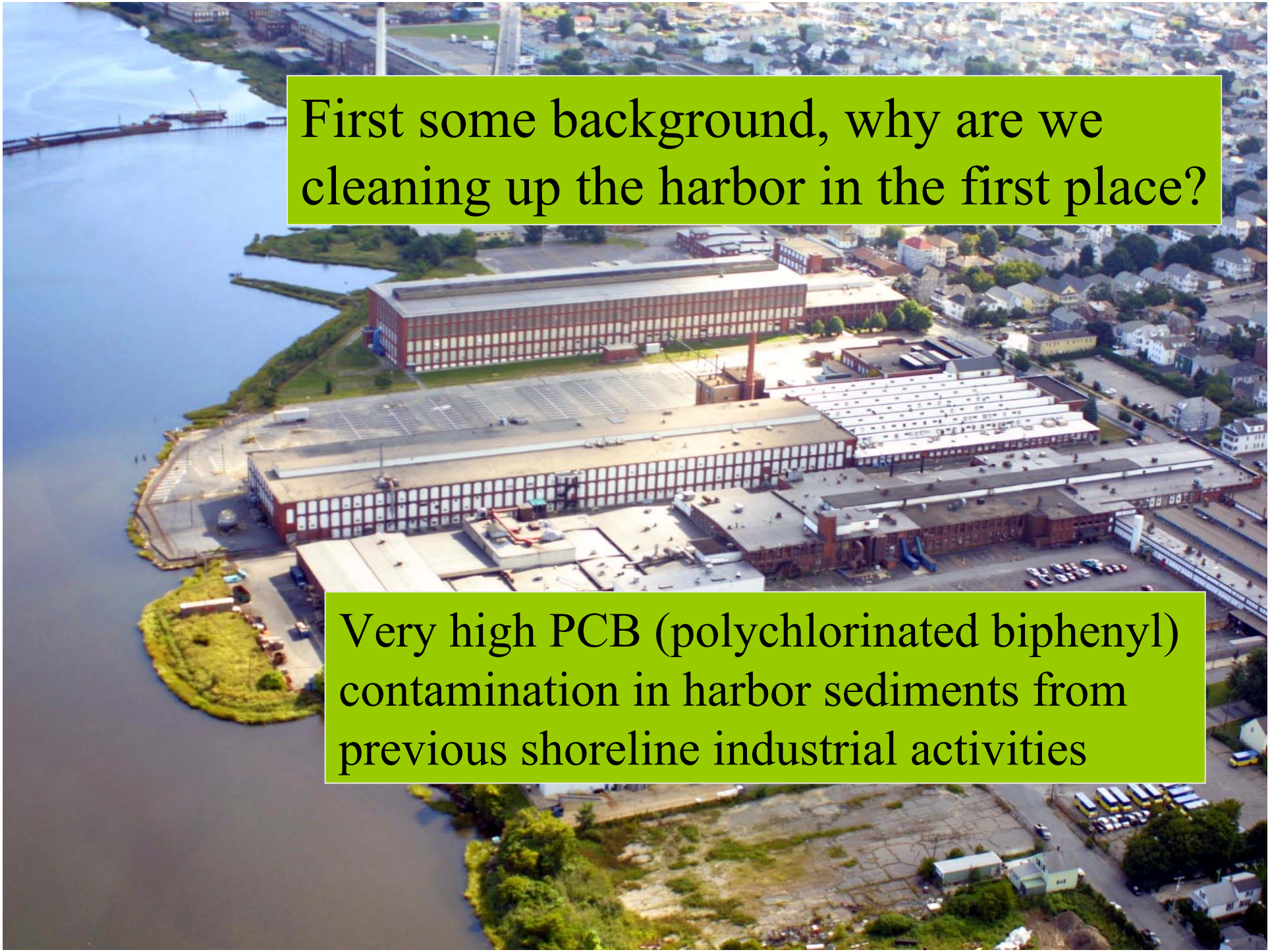
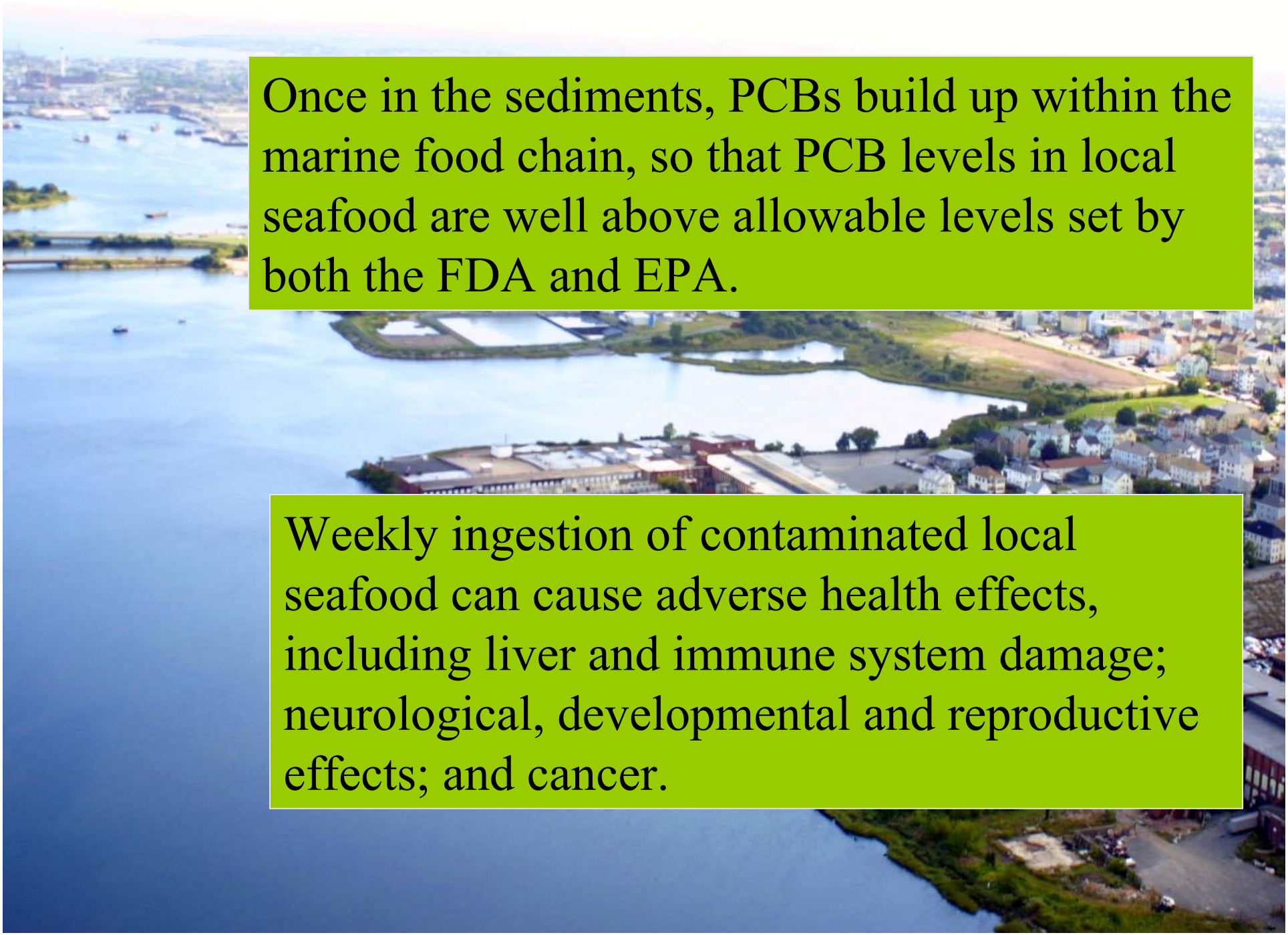
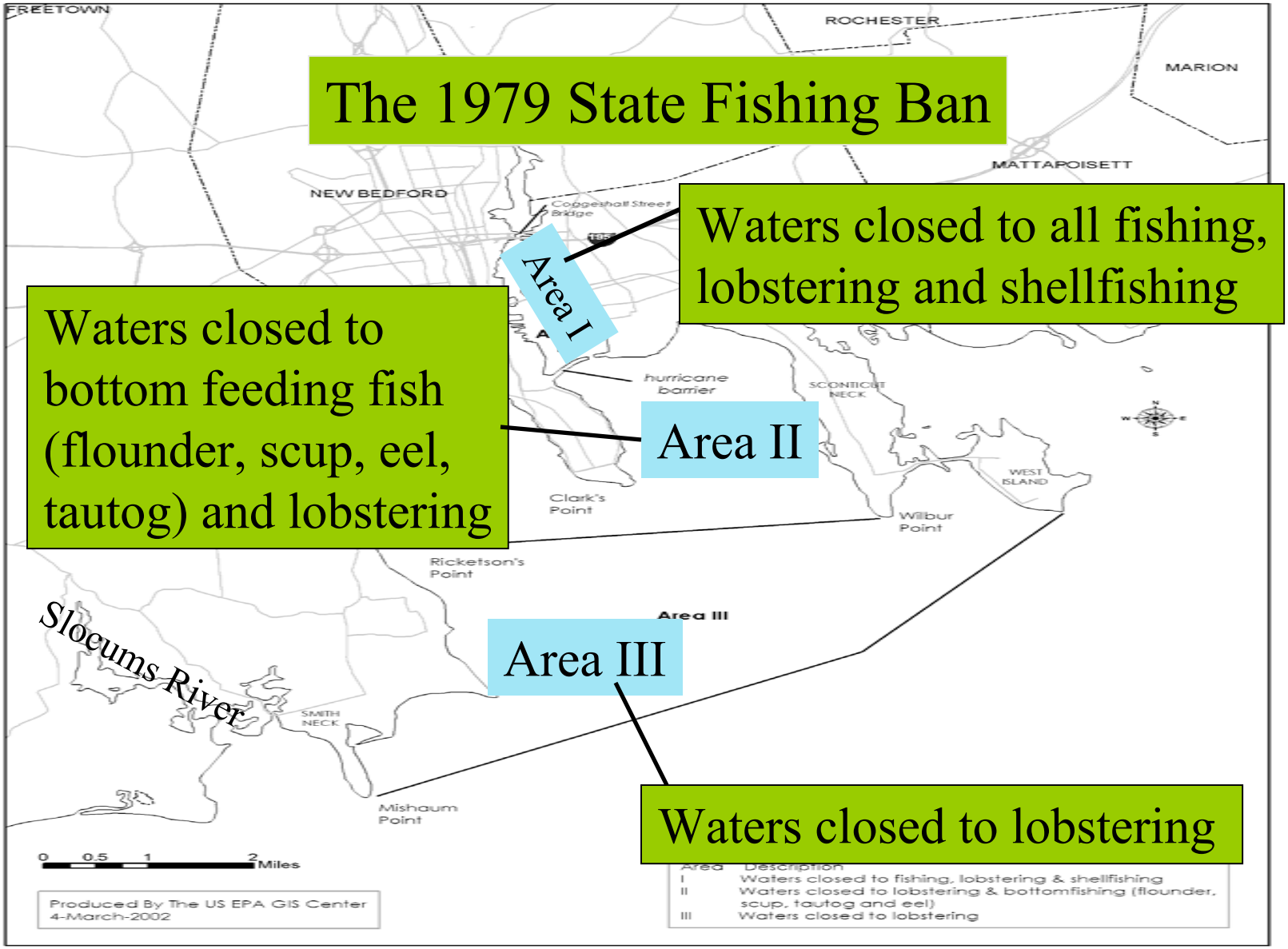

EPA's proposed changes
to the September 1998
harbor cleanup plan…


First some background, why are we cleaning up the harbor in the first place?
Very high PCB (polychlorinated biphenyl) contamination in harbor sediments from previous shoreline industrial activities

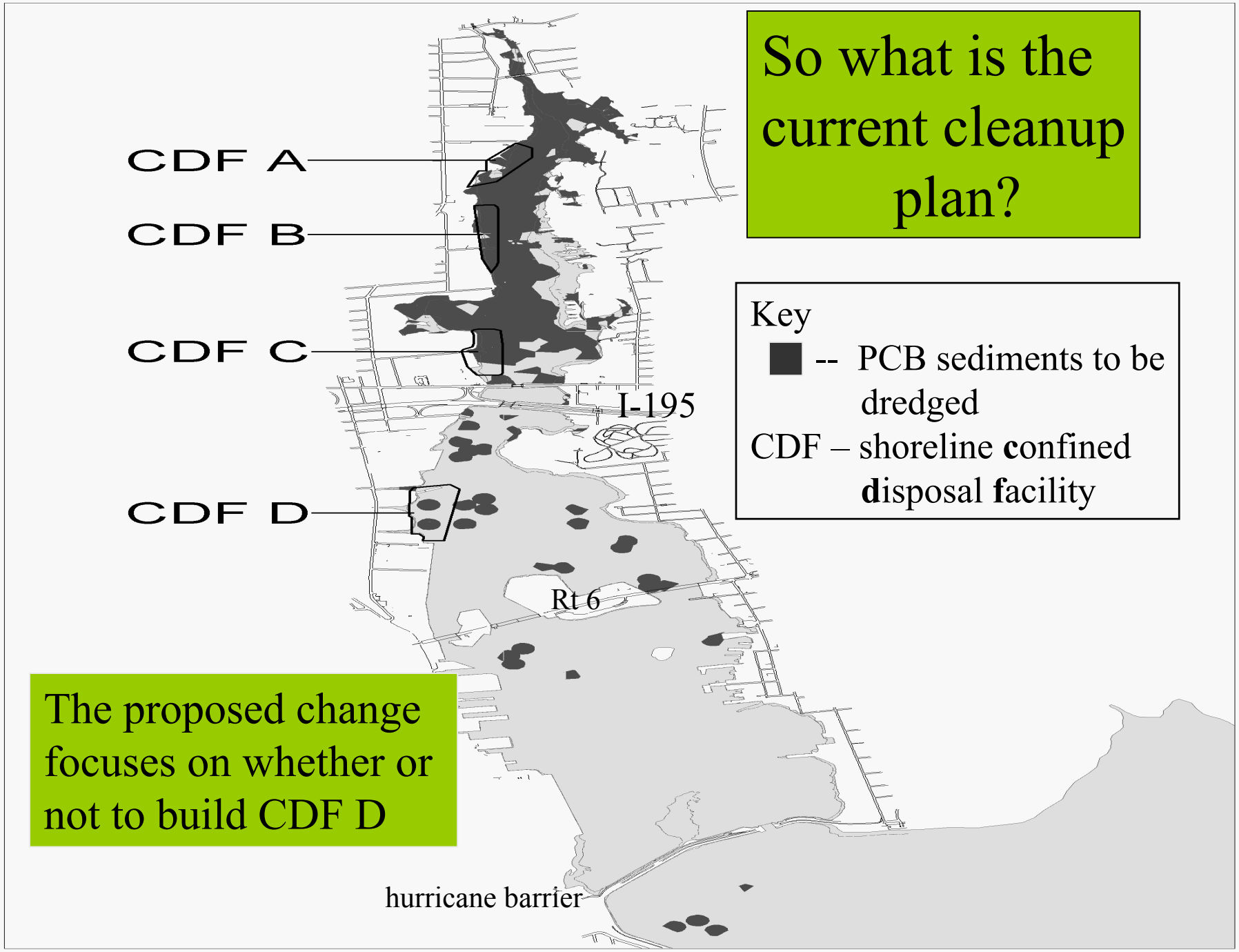


Once in the sediments, PCBs build up within the marine food chain, so that PCB levels in local seafood are well above allowable levels set by both the FDA and EPA.

Weekly ingestion of contaminated local seafood can cause adverse health effects, including liver and immune system damage; neurological, developmental and reproductive effects; and cancer.

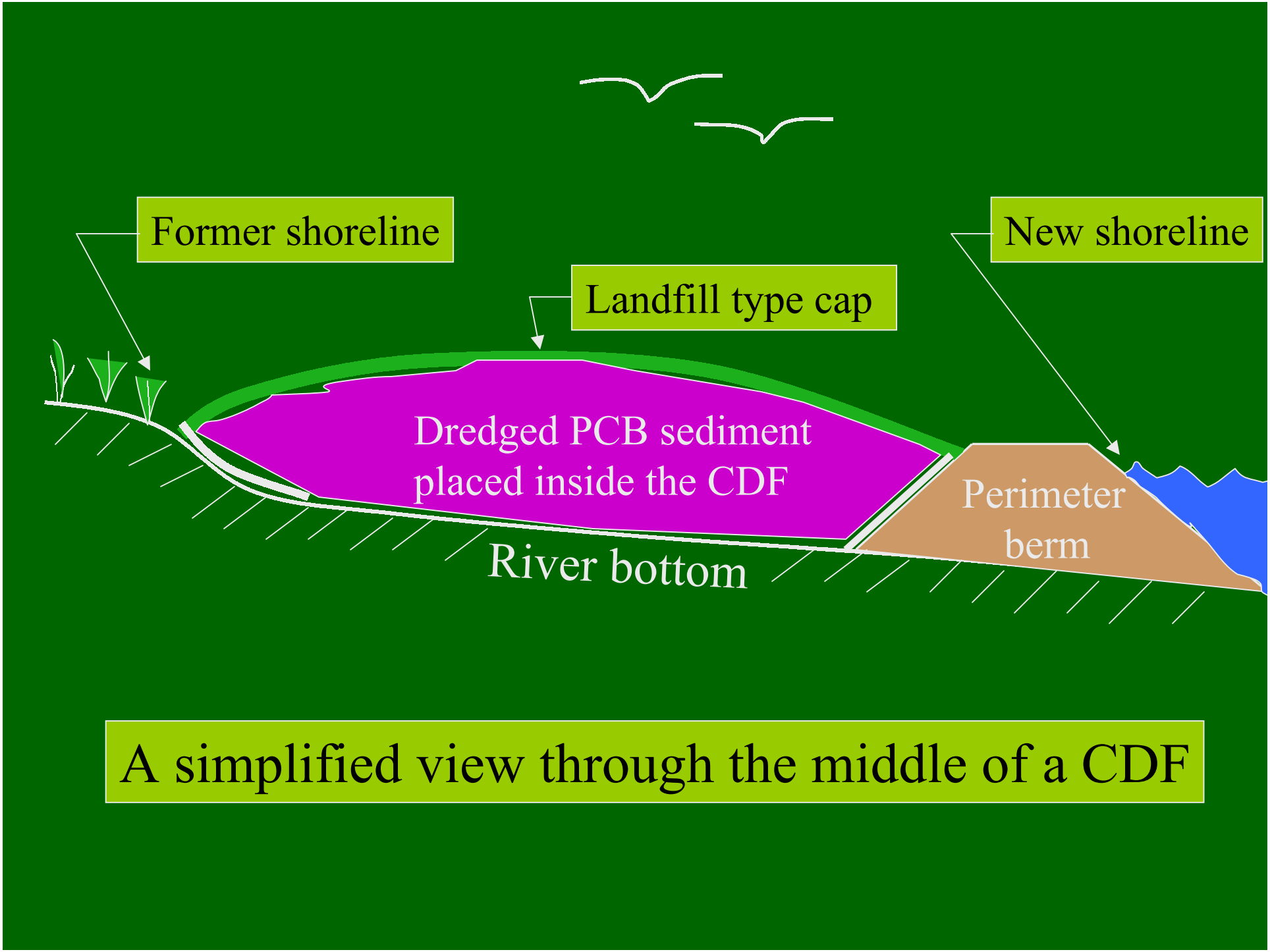

The 1979 State Fishing Ban
Waters closed to all fishing, lobstering and shellfishing
Area I
Waters closed to bottom feeding fish (flounder, scup, eel, tautog) and lobstering
Area II
Area III
Waters closed to lobstering
FREETOWN
ROCHESTER
MARION
MATTAPOISETT
NEW BEDFORD
Coggeshall Street Bridge
hurricane barrier
SCONTICUT NECK
WEST ISLAND
Clark's Point
Wilbur Point
Ricketson's Point
Sloeums River
SMITH NECK
Mishaum Point
0 0.5 1 2 Miles
Produced By The US EPA GIS Center
4-March-2002
Area Description
I Waters closed to fishing, lobstering & shellfishing
II Waters closed to lobstering & bottomfishing (flounder, scup, tautog and eel)
III Waters closed to lobstering

There are also secondary health risks due to skin contact with contaminated shoreline sediments, as well as ecological damage to the harbor.


So what is the current cleanup plan?
CDF A
CDF B
CDF C
CDF D
I-195
Rt 6
hurricane barrier
Key
-- PCB sediments to be dredged
CDF – shoreline confined disposal facility
The proposed change focuses on whether or not to build CDF D

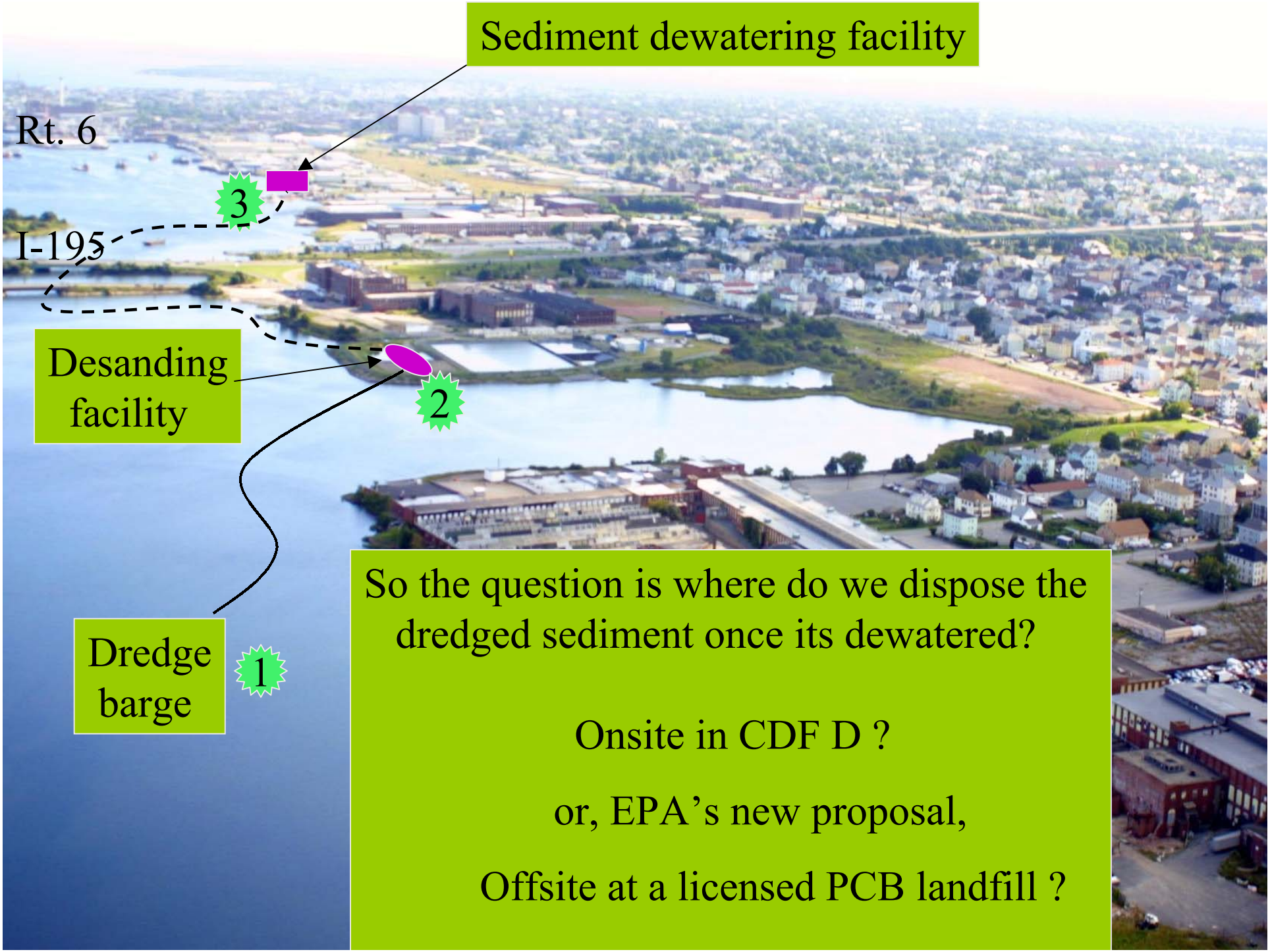
And just what is a “CDF”?

- “Sediment landfills built along the shore, extending land into the water”
- First a perimeter wall of sand and gravel or sheetpile is constructed out into the water
- Sidewall liners are then installed to prevent leaking
- Dredged sediment is then placed into the CDF
- A landfill-type cap is installed once filled



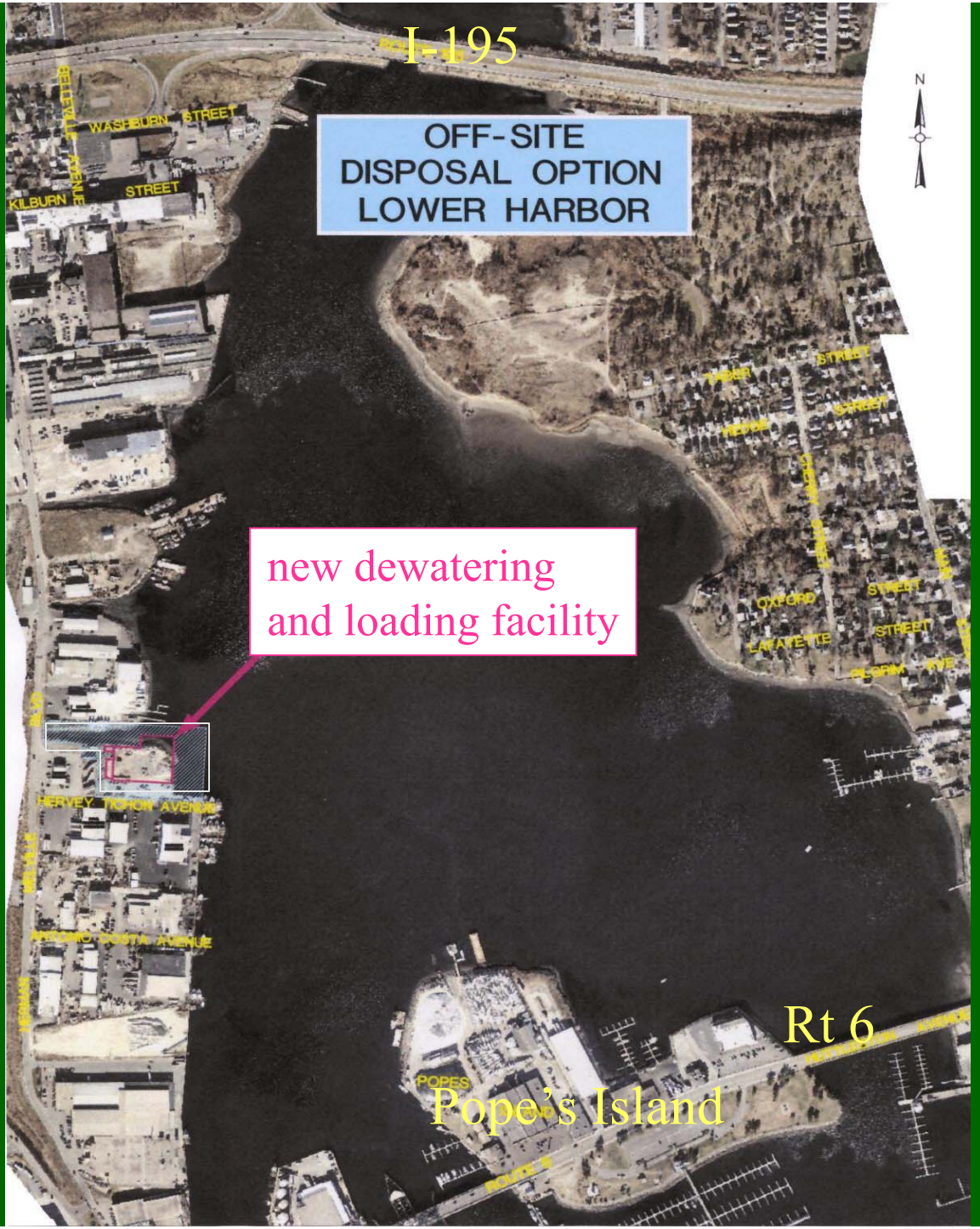
A simplified view through the middle of a CDF

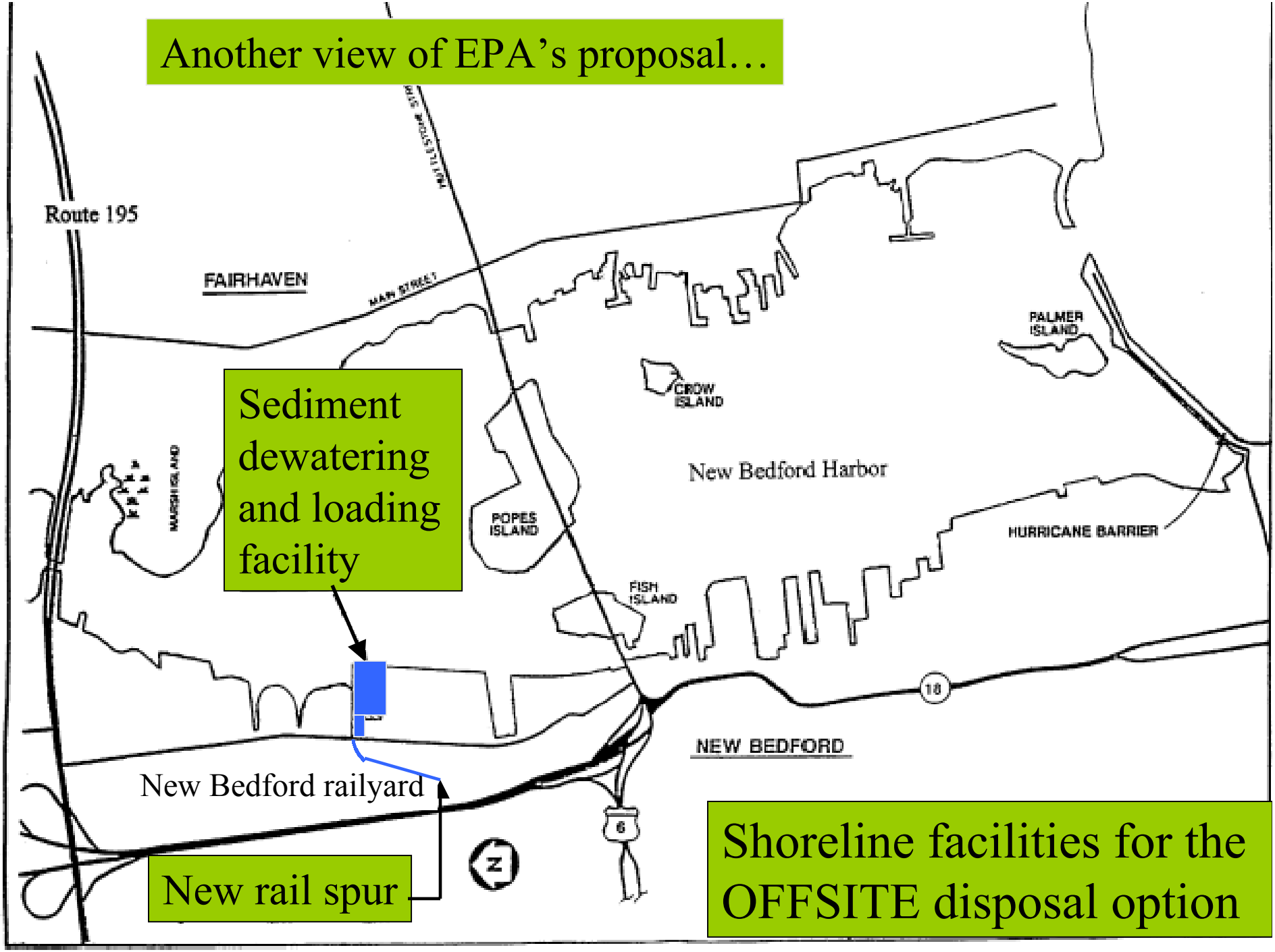

Sediment dewatering facility
Rt. 6
3
underwater pipes connect steps 2 and 3
I-195
Desanding facility
2
Water treatment plant
floating pipeline
Dredge barge
1
Some more background….before disposal, PCB sediments are dredged and dewatered

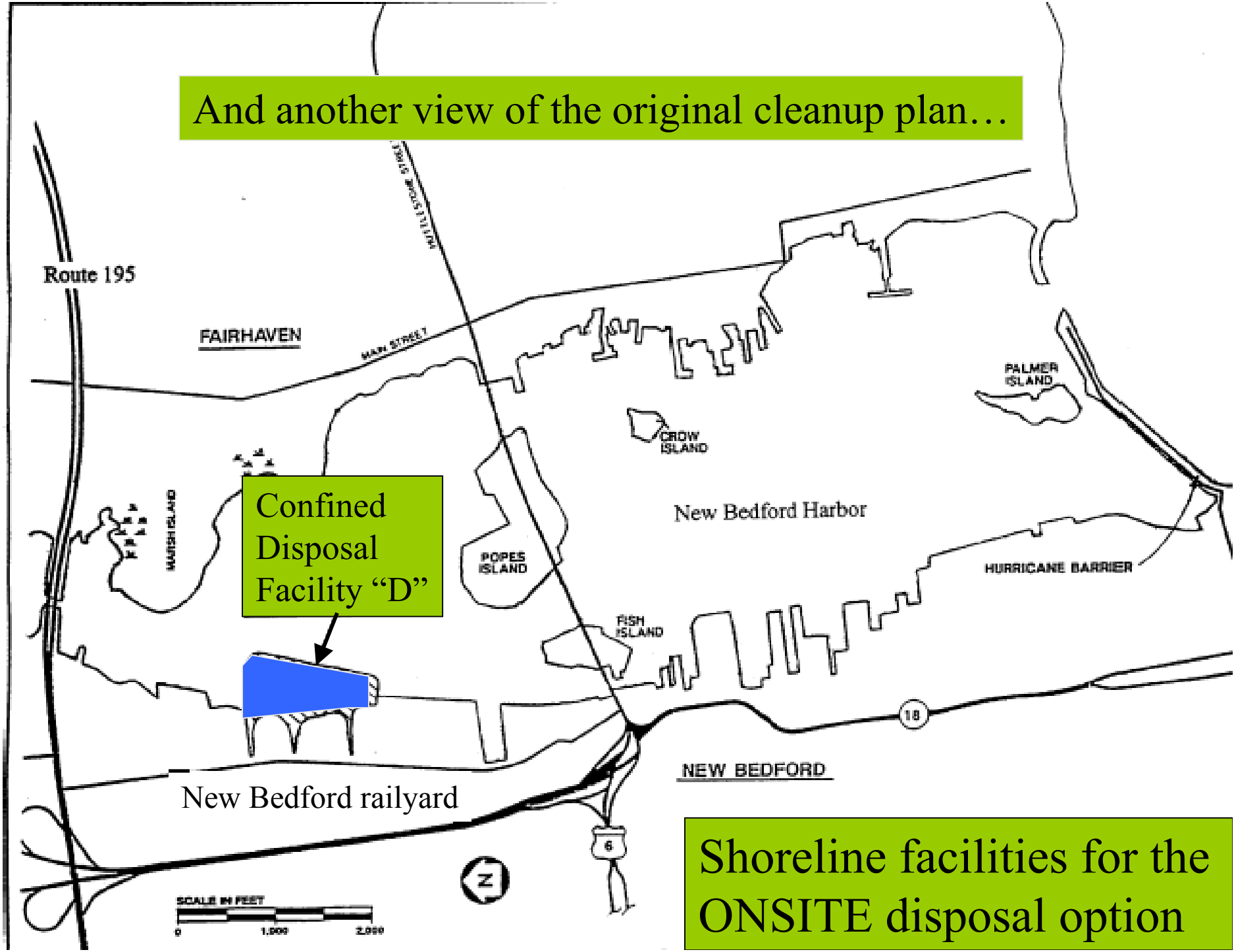

Sediment dewatering facility
Rt. 6
3
I-195
Desanding facility
2
Dredge barge
1
So the question is where do we dispose the dredged sediment once its dewatered?
Onsite in CDF D ?
or, EPA's new proposal,
Offsite at a licensed PCB landfill ?

Again, the 9/98 plan calls for dredged PCB sediment to be disposed in CDF D

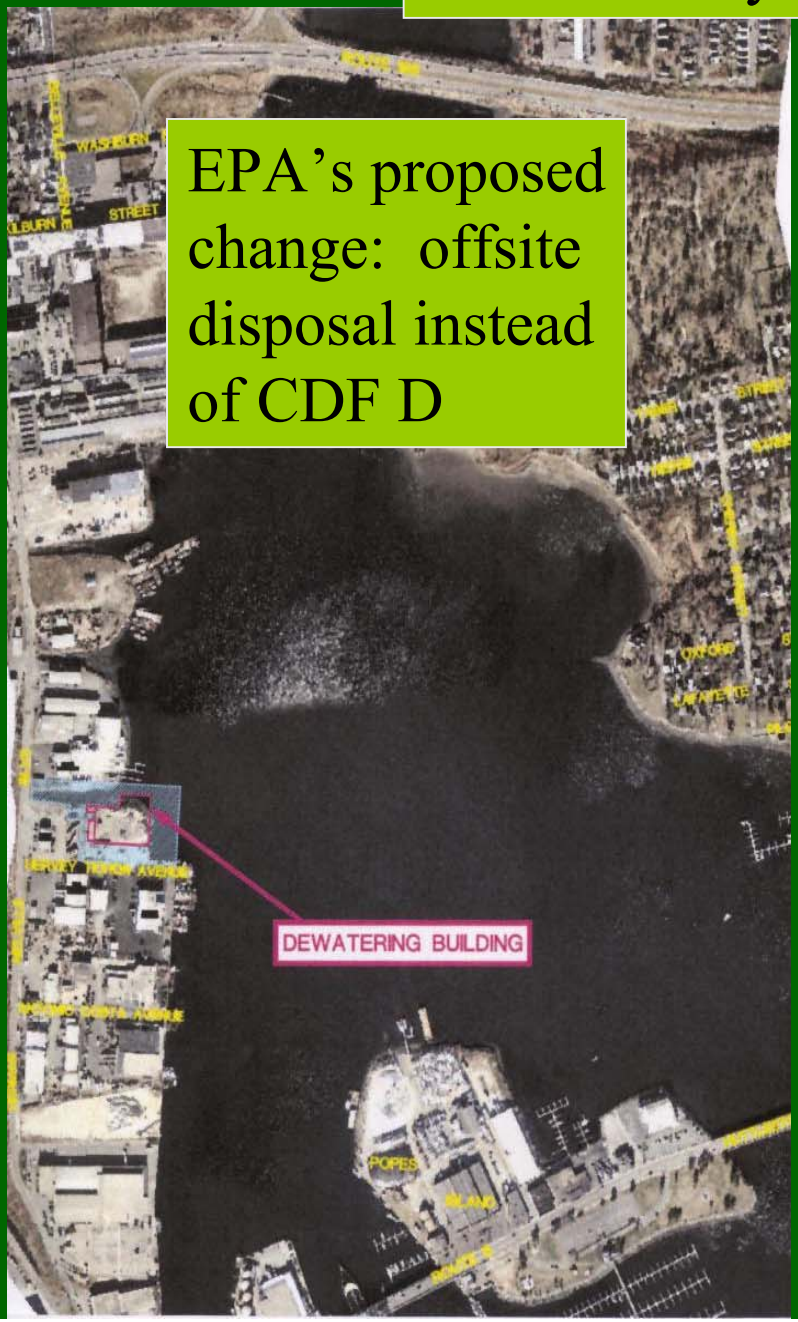
EPA is now proposing that, instead of using CDF D, the dewatered sediment be shipped to an offsite licensed PCB landfill

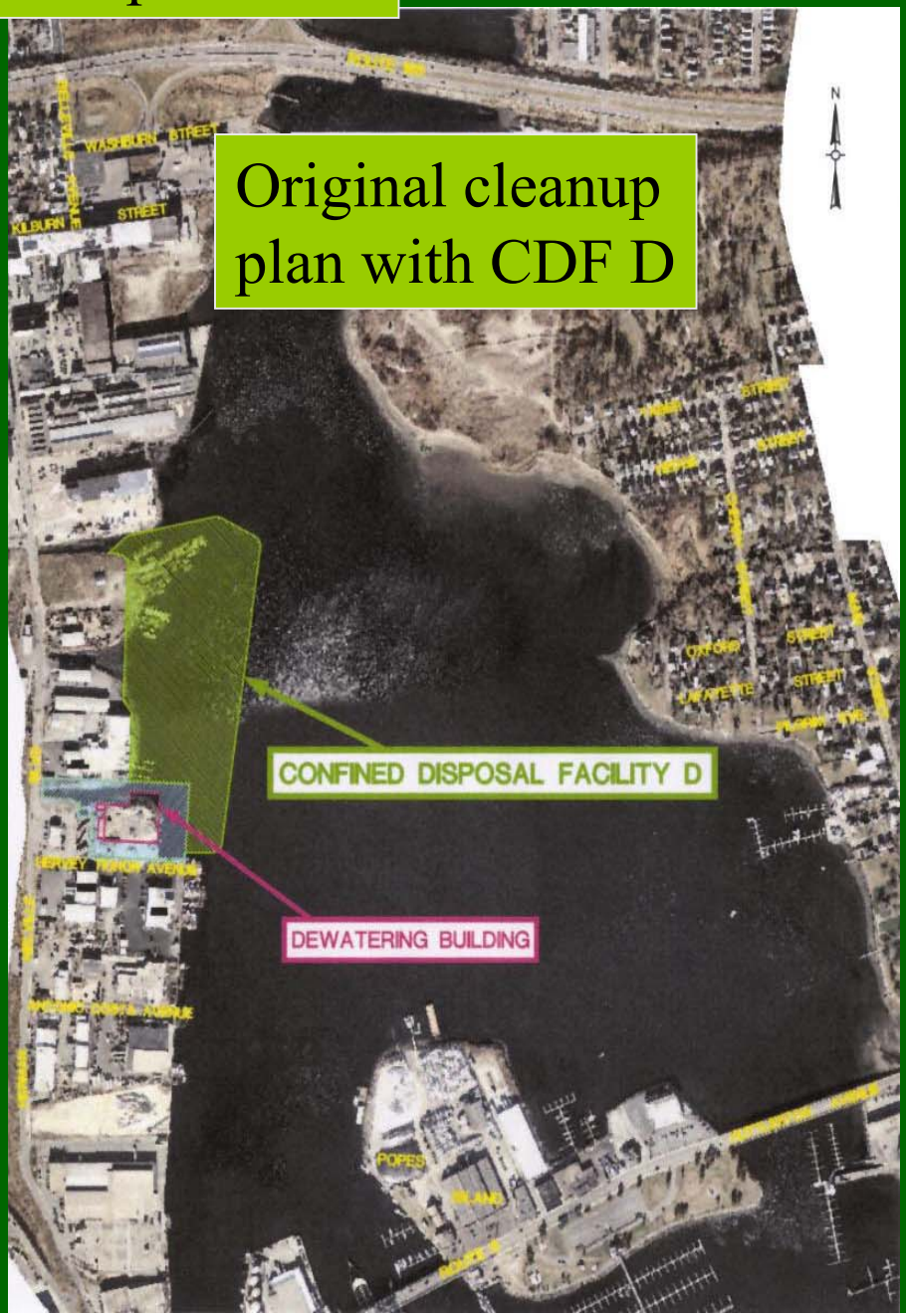



Another view of EPA's proposal…
Route 195
FAIRHAVEN
MAIN STREET
PALMER ISLAND
CROW ISLAND
MARSH ISLAND
New Bedford Harbor
POPES ISLAND
HURRICANE BARRIER
FISH ISLAND
Sediment dewatering and loading facility
18
NEW BEDFORD
New Bedford railyard
6
N
New rail spur
Shoreline facilities for the OFFSITE disposal option


And another view of the original cleanup plan…
Route 195
FAIRHAVEN
MAIN STREET
MILLSTONE STREET
MARSH ISLAND
Confined Disposal Facility "D"
POPES ISLAND
CROW ISLAND
PALMER ISLAND
New Bedford Harbor
HURRICANE BARRIER
FISH ISLAND
18
NEW BEDFORD
New Bedford railyard
6
N
SCALE IN FEET
0
1,000
2,000
Shoreline facilities for the ONSITE disposal option

And a side by side comparison…





How would the PCB sediment be transported for offsite disposal?

- Most likely by rail, but by truck also an option
- EPA is coordinating closely with New Bedford officials regarding redevelopment of the old railyard

Why is EPA proposing offsite disposal instead of CDF "D"?

- Reduces the amount of harbor filling by 15 acres
- Avoids the construction and filling challenges associated with CDF D
- Allows a "pay as you go approach"

Why is EPA proposing offsite disposal instead of CDF "D"?
(continued)

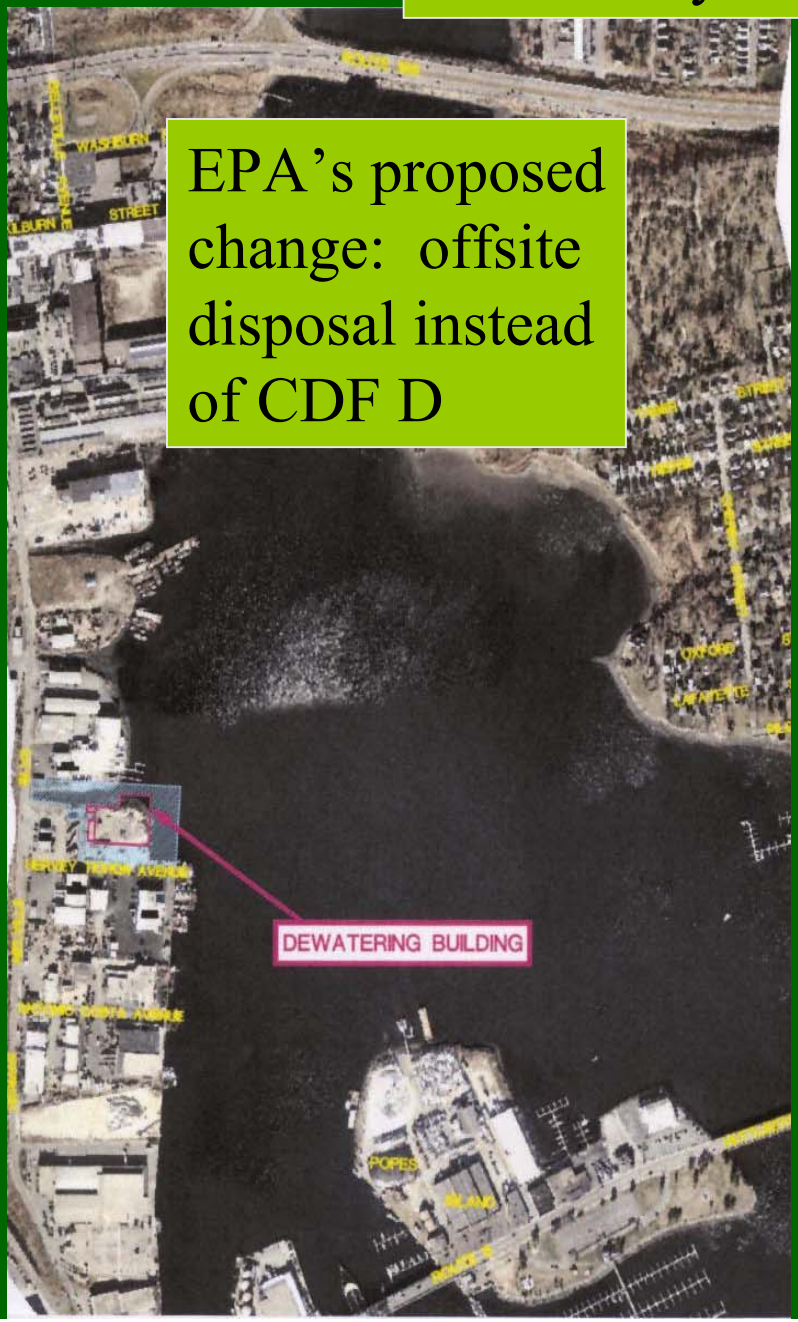
- Has less impacts to neighbors
- Allows for easier reuse of EPA's cleanup facilities once the cleanup is complete
- Estimated cost savings of $8 million

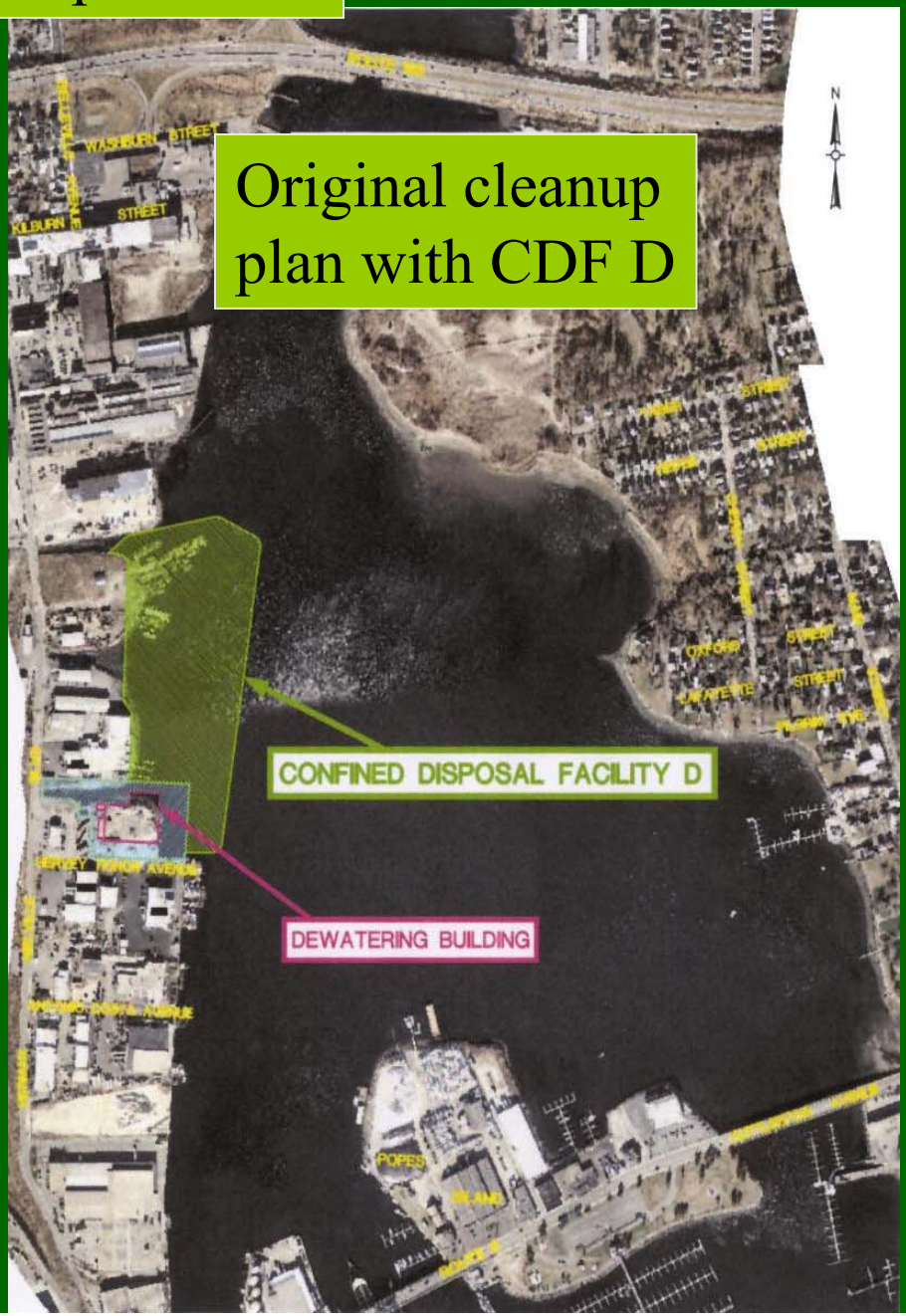
Some additional detail on these six main reasons…

1. Reduces the amount of filling…

- CDF D would require 17 acres of filling
- The sediment dewatering and loading facility would require only 2 acres of clean fill
- Net reduction of harbor filling of 15 acres

The side by side comparison…





2. Avoids construction and filling challenges…

- Large quantities of soft, unsuitable foundation sediments would have to be removed (250,000 to 300,000 cubic yards)
- Potential cost growth due to large, complex in-water construction
- Some issues: keeping the CDF dewatered and controling air emissions during filling

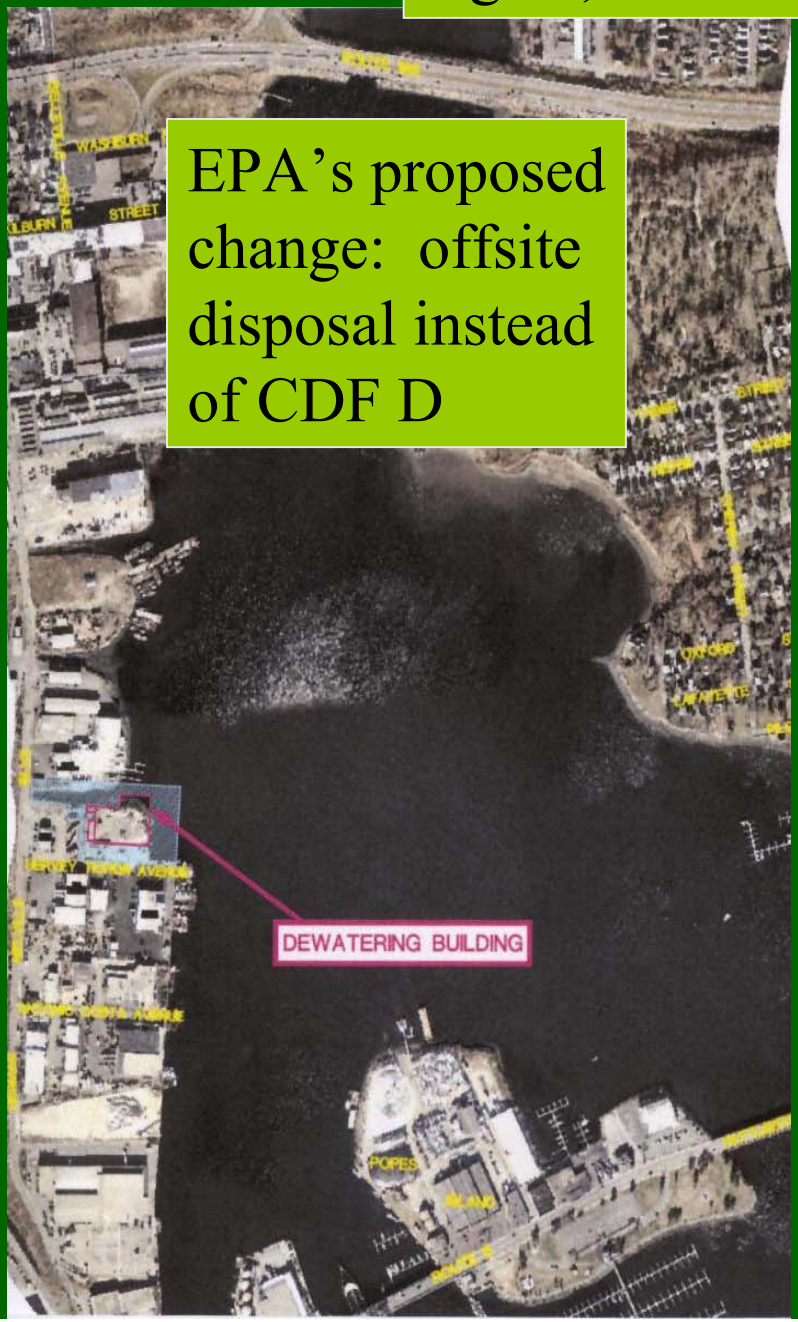
3. Allows a pay-as-you-go approach…

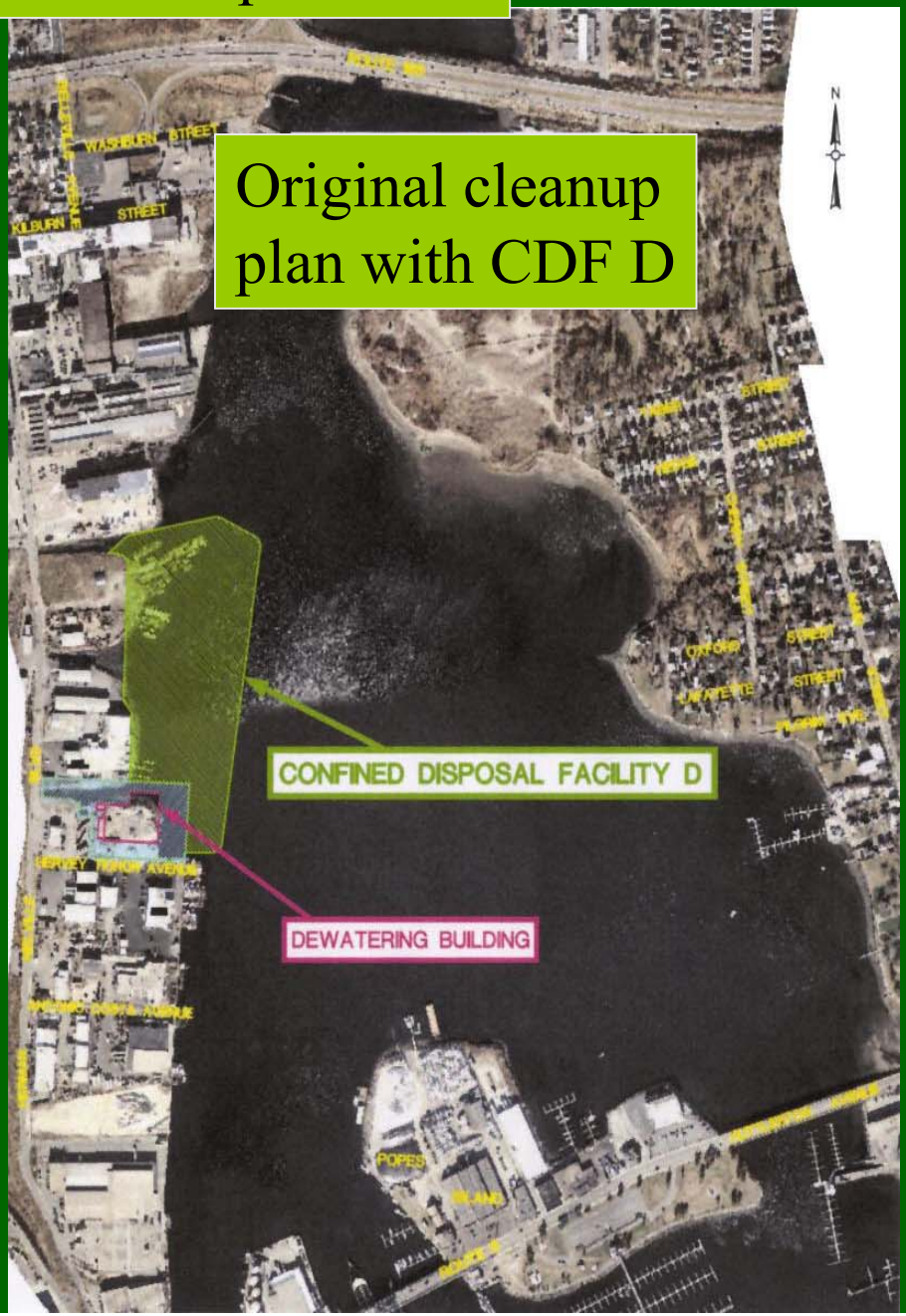
- Site funding is transitioning from settlement funds to national funds
- Full annual funding levels are currently uncertain
- Offsite disposal thus avoids having a partially completed CDF linger amidst the working waterfront

4. Has less impacts on neighbors…

- Many water dependent businesses in the area
- The smaller size of the offsite disposal area would impact less abutting neighbors
- All cleanup steps for the offsite approach would be in an enclosed building, allowing a more controllable operation

Again, the side by side comparison…



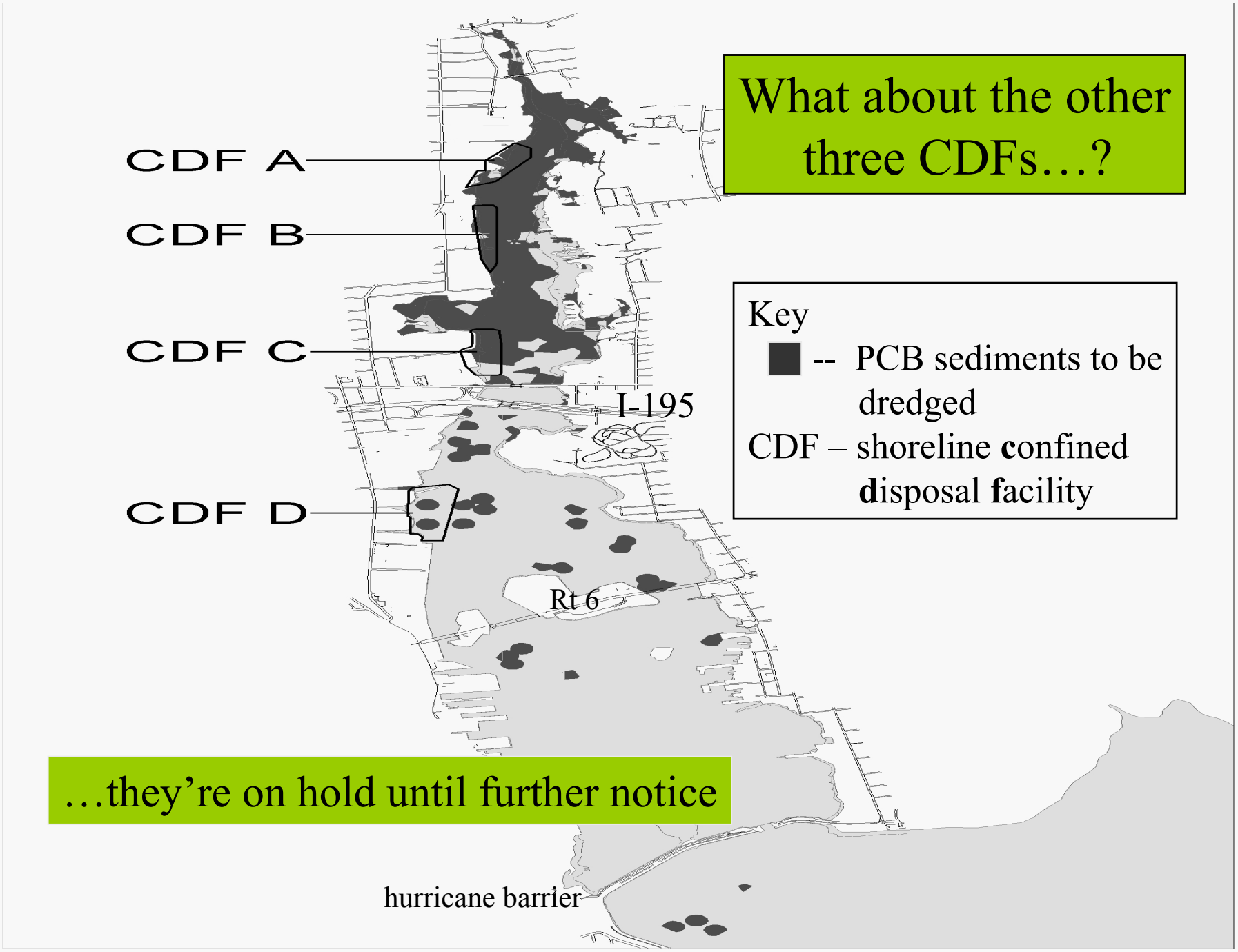


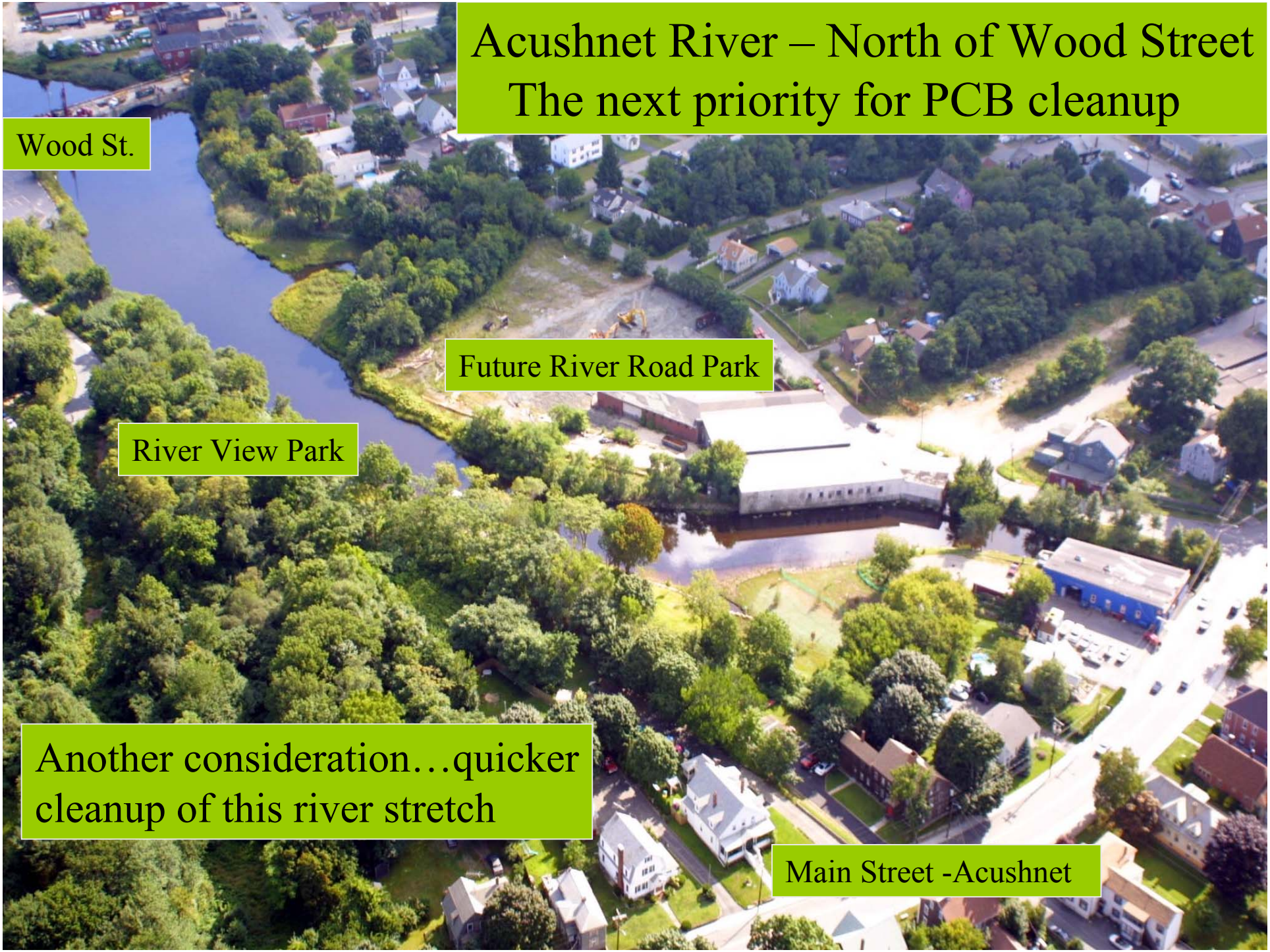
5. Allows easier beneficial reuse…

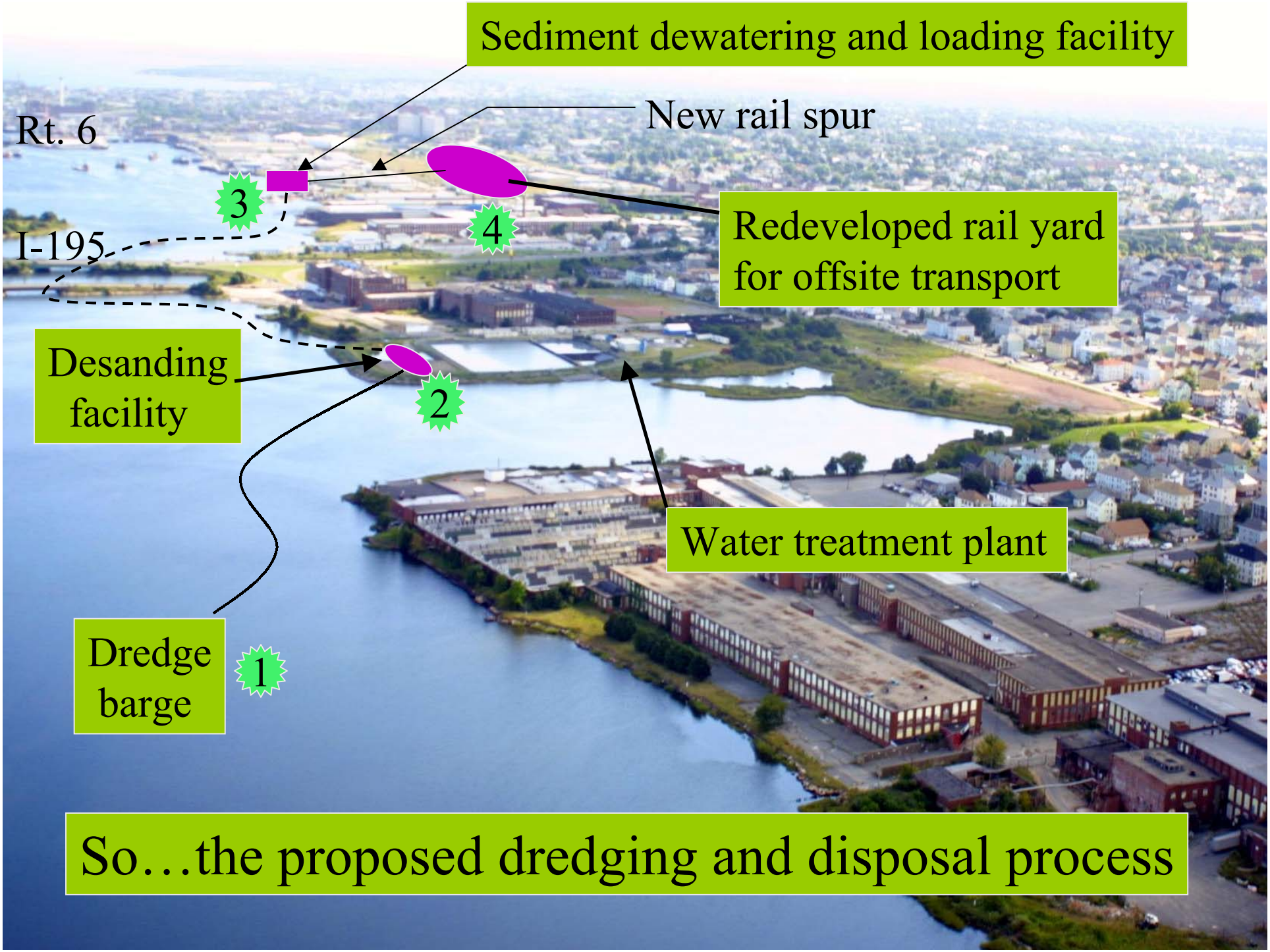
- Designated port area per state regulations
- The $25m dewatering and loading facilities have been designed for easy and unlimited commercial reuse
- Reuse of CDF D would have to be limited in order to protect the integrity of the CDF and its landfill-type cap

6. Estimated cost savings of $8 million …

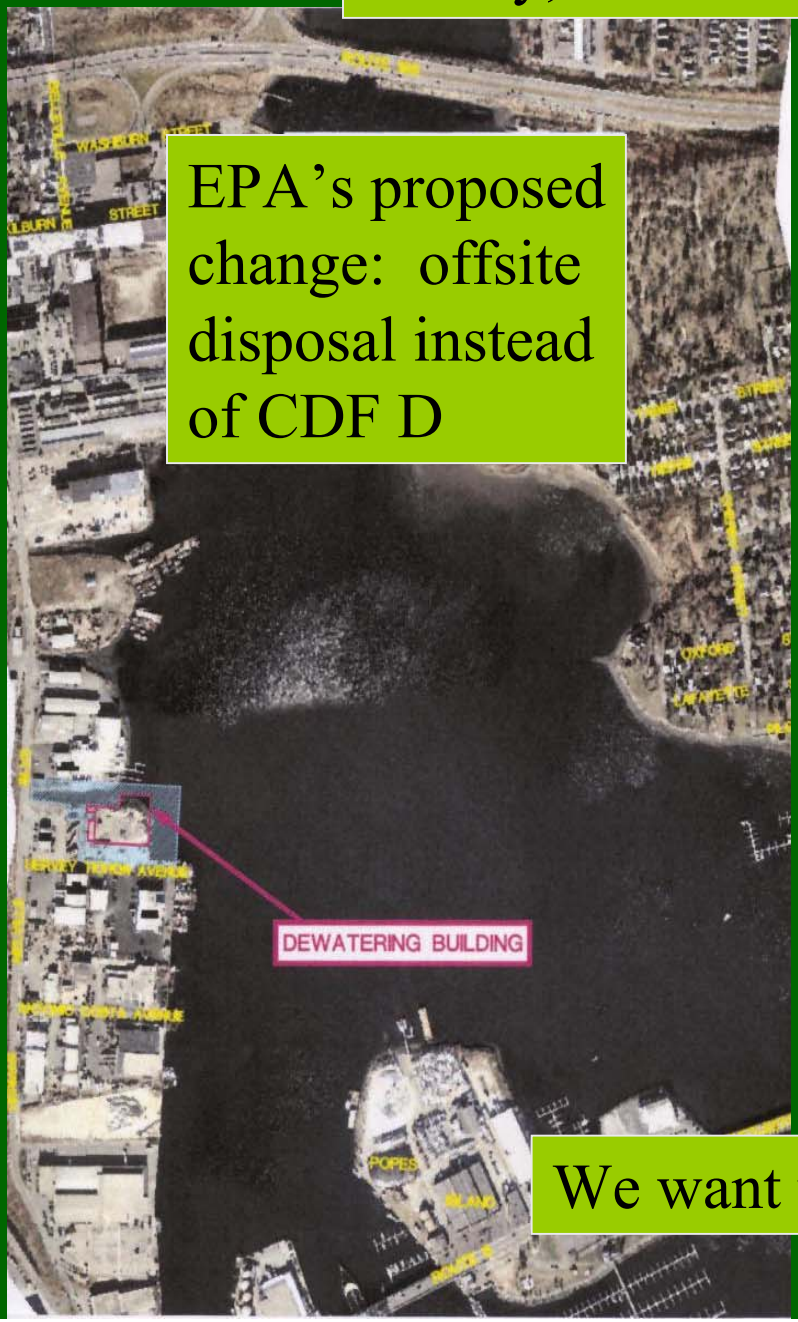
- CDF D approach estimated at $325 million
- Offsite approach estimated at $317 million
- A two percent difference

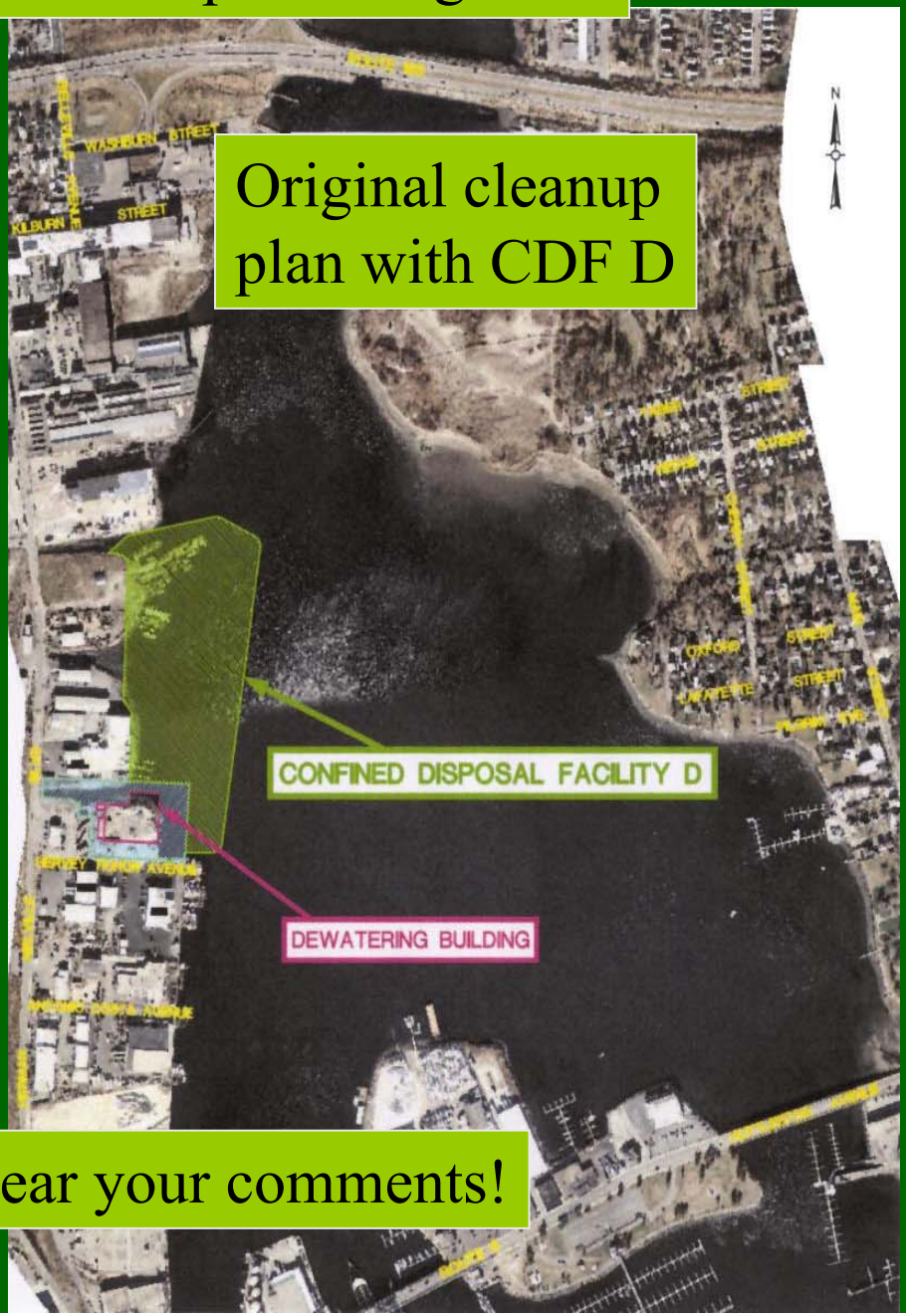

What about the other three CDFs…?
CDF A
CDF B
CDF C
CDF D
I-195
Rt 6
Key
-- PCB sediments to be dredged
CDF – shoreline **c**onfined **d**isposal **f**acility
…they're on hold until further notice
hurricane barrier


Acushnet River – North of Wood Street
The next priority for PCB cleanup
Wood St.
Future River Road Park
River View Park
Another consideration…quicker cleanup of this river stretch
Main Street -Acushnet


Sediment dewatering and loading facility
New rail spur
Rt. 6
3
4
I-195
Redeveloped rail yard for offsite transport
Desanding facility
2
Water treatment plant
Dredge barge
1
So…the proposed dredging and disposal process

Finally, the side by side comparison again…



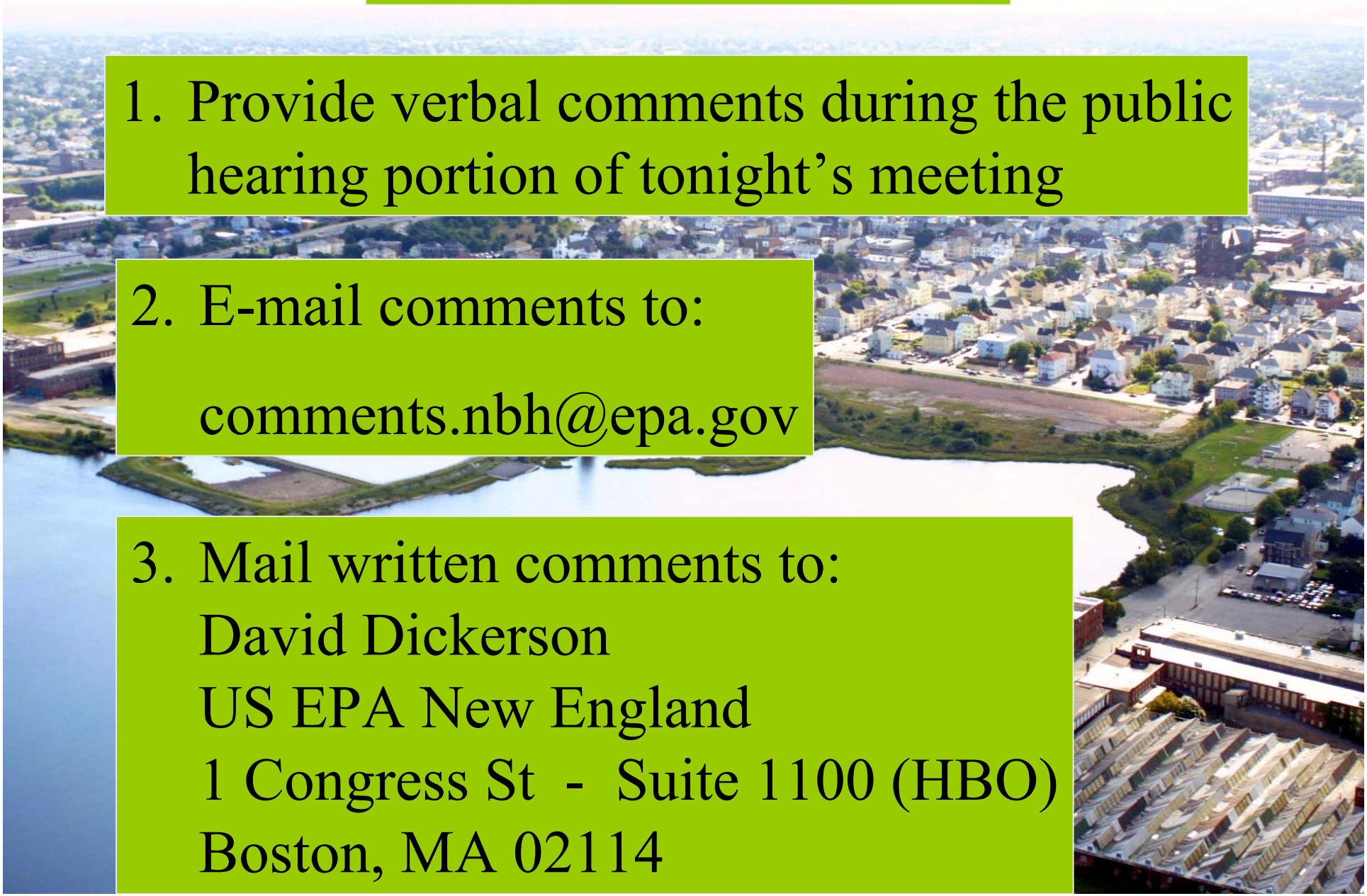


We want to hear your comments!

For more information checkout our new web site:

www.epa.gov/ne/nbh

To provide comments:



1. Provide verbal comments during the public hearing portion of tonight's meeting

2. E-mail comments to:

   comments.nbh@epa.gov

3. Mail written comments to:
   David Dickerson
   US EPA New England
   1 Congress St - Suite 1100 (HBO)
   Boston, MA 02114