

01-0868



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

July 21, 2005

Mr. Andrew Silfer
Corporate Environmental Programs
General Electric Company
159 Plastics Avenue
Pittsfield, MA 01201

Via Electronic and U.S. Mail

Re: 2005 Construction/ Consolidation Activities
Building 71 and Hill 78 On-Plant Consolidation Areas
GE- Pittsfield/Housatonic River Site, Pittsfield, Massachusetts.

Dear Mr. Silfer:

This letter provides the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) approval of GE's June 15, 2005 letter regarding upcoming construction/consolidation activities associated with the Building 71 and Hill 78 On-Plant Consolidation Areas. The letter was amended by GE in a follow-up letter dated July 13, 2005 to address comments expressed by EPA in a teleconference conducted on July 11, 2005. Both letters are 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, after consultation with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP), approves the June 15, 2005 letter, as modified by GE's July 13, 2005 letter.

If there is any conflict between the Performance Standards as described in the Work Plan and as set forth in the Consent Decree and/or Statement of Work for Removal Actions Outside the River (Appendix E to the Consent Decree), the Consent Decree and Statement of Work shall control. EPA reserves its right to perform additional sampling and/or require additional sampling or Response Actions, if necessary, to meet the requirements of the Consent Decree.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (617) 918-1240.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William Lovely".

William Lovely
GE Facility Project Manager

cc:

Dean Tagliaferro, EPA
John Kilborn, EPA
Rose Howell, EPA
Holly Inglis, EPA
Sue Steenstrup, MDEP
Anna Symington, MDEP
Robert Bell, MDEP
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