



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
WESTERN REGIONAL OFFICE

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Commissioner

November 22, 2006

Mr. Michael T. Carroll
Remediation Project Manager
GE Corporate Environmental Programs
159 Plastics Avenue
Pittsfield, Massachusetts 01201

Re: Site Number GESD02
Housatonic River – West Branch
Conditional Approval of Addendum to Second Supplemental Sampling Summary Report

Dear Mr. Carroll:

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (the Department) has reviewed the report titled *Addendum to Second Supplemental Sampling Summary Report and Remedial Action Proposal for the West Branch of the Housatonic River*, dated October 27, 2006 (the Report). The Report was prepared by Blasland, Bouck & Lee, Inc. for the General Electric Company (GE).

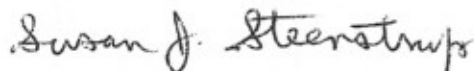
The Department approves the Report with the following conditions:

1. In Section A of the Report, GE states that if an Activity and Use Limitation (AUL) is not obtained for the lower riverbanks, it will remediate soils to achieve the Massachusetts Contingency Plan Method 1 Soil Standard of 2 parts per million (ppm) for polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). GE presents the pre-remediation and post-remediation PCB evaluations for this remediation approach in Attachment B of the Report. Table B-3 in Attachment B indicates that 10 ppm of PCBs will remain in the 0- to 0.5-foot depth interval at sample location WB00350LT after soil remediation. If an AUL is not obtained, GE shall either remove soils at this location, or shall present an imminent hazard evaluation prepared in accordance with 310 CMR 40.0426 that demonstrates that site conditions do not constitute a hazard to human health.

2. In Section D of the Report, GE proposes sampling for non-PCB constituents listed in 40 CFR Part 264 (excluding pesticides and herbicides), plus benzidine, 2-chloroethyl vinyl ether, and 1,2-diphenylhydrazine (Appendix IX+3 constituents). In addition to the proposed sampling locations depicted on Figure 1 of the Report, GE shall collect samples for Appendix IX+3 analysis from the 0- to 1-foot depth interval at sample locations WB00400LB and WB00600LB.
3. In Section F of the Report, GE proposes to submit a Remedial Action Work Plan (RAWP) within 90 days after receipt of the latest of: (a) the Department's approval of the Report; (b) Pittsfield Conservation Commission approval for the additional sampling proposed in the Report; and, (c) access permission to collect those samples. GE shall submit the RAWP to the Department within 90 days of the date of this letter. If GE has difficulty obtaining access or obtaining approval from the Conservation Commission, GE shall notify the Department promptly, and the Department will consider extending the deadline for the submission of the RAWP.

If you have any questions regarding these matters please contact Joanne Flescher at (413) 755-2292.

Sincerely,



Susan J. Steenstrup
Project Coordinator, Special Projects
Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup

SJS/JMF

cc: Richard W. Gates, GE
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