



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

436 Dwight Street • Springfield, Massachusetts 01103 • (413) 784-1100 • FAX (413) 784-1149

MITT ROMNEY  
Governor

KERRY HEALEY  
Lieutenant Governor

STEPHEN R. PRITCHARD  
Secretary

ROBERT W. GOLLEDGE, Jr.  
Commissioner

November 7, 2005

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

Re: Site Number GESD02  
Review and Conditional Approval of Additional Investigation Summary Report for  
Dorothy Amos Park and the West Branch of the Housatonic River

Dear Mr. Carroll:

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (the Department) has reviewed the report titled *Additional Investigation Summary Report for Dorothy Amos Park and the West Branch of the Housatonic River*, dated September 30, 2005 (the Report). The Report was prepared by Blasland, Bouck & Lee, Inc. for the General Electric Company (GE).

The Report presents the results of the soil, sediment, groundwater and surface water investigations that were performed by GE from July through September 2005. These investigations were carried out as proposed in the report titled *Supplemental Scope of Work for Sediment and Riverbank Investigations for the West Branch of the Housatonic River* (the SOW), submitted to the Department on March 25, 2005, and as modified by the Department's June 1, 2005 conditional approval of the SOW.

The Department approves the Report with the following conditions:

1. At riverbank sampling location DARB-7, GE proposes to collect soil samples from the 3- to 4-foot and 4- to 6-foot depth intervals, and to analyze the sample from the 3- to 4-foot interval for polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). The sample from the 4- to 6-foot depth interval will be held for possible future analysis, pending review of the results for the sample from the 3- to 4-foot depth interval. In addition to the collection of these samples,

This information is available in alternate format. Call Donald M. Gomes, ADA Coordinator at 617-556-1057. TDD Service - 1-800-298-2207.

DEP on the World Wide Web: <http://www.mass.gov/dep>

Printed on Recycled Paper

GE shall collect a sample from the 6- to 8-foot depth interval at this location. The sample will be held for possible future analysis, pending review of the results for the samples from the upper depth increments.

2. GE performed groundwater sampling at wells WBGMW110 and WBGMW300, as proposed in the SOW. Concentrations of PCBs from well WBGMW110 were 0.69 parts per billion (ppb) and 0.89 ppb, in the filtered and unfiltered samples, respectively. These concentrations are above the current Massachusetts Contingency Plan Method 1 GW-3 Standard of 0.3 ppb. However, the concentrations are less than the Department's proposed Wave 2 GW-3 Standard of 10 ppb (proposed in September 2004). For this reason, GE does not propose additional groundwater investigation activities at these wells. If the Wave 2 standard for PCBs is not in effect by May 2006, GE shall perform another round of groundwater sampling at both wells, and the samples shall be analyzed for PCBs.

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

Sincerely,

This final document copy is being provided to you electronically by the Department of Environmental Protection. A signed copy of this document is on file at the DEP office listed on the letterhead.

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

SJS/JMF

cc: Richard W. Gates, GE  
James R. Bieke, Esq., Goodwin & Procter  
Roderic J. McLaren, Esq., GE  
Susan Svirsky, EPA New England Region  
Dean Tagliaferro, EPA New England Region (*electronic copy*)  
Anna Symington, DEP WERO (*electronic copy*)  
Robert Bell, Esq., DEP OGC (*electronic copy*)  
Joanne Flescher, DEP WERO  
Mayor James Ruberto, City of Pittsfield  
Pittsfield Commissioner of Public Health  
Pittsfield Conservation Commission  
Pittsfield Commissioner of Public Works  
Pittsfield Parks and Recreation Department  
Housatonic River Initiative

Public Information Repository: Berkshire Athenaeum