

563

{In Archive} Re: Fw: Need to Extend Subsampling at Merrimack Station 

Ericp Nelson to: palmeag

11/16/2005 10:25 AM

Cc: mmattson, Sharon Zaya

From: Ericp Nelson/R1/USEPA/US

To: palmeag@nu.com

Cc: mmattson@normandeau.com, Sharon Zaya/R1/USEPA/US@EPA

Archive: This message is being viewed in an archive.

Hi Allan:

EPA agrees to your request for an extension of the one-hour subsampling plan from November 17 - 30. Six-day (long interval) sampling will commence on December 1.

Regards,
Eric

Eric P. Nelson

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1 Congress Street
Suite 1100 - CWQ
Boston, MA 02114-2023

PH: 617-918-1676 FAX: 617-918-1505

Email: nelson.ericp@epa.gov

palmeag@nu.com



palmeag@nu.com

11/15/2005 03:03 PM

To Ericp Nelson/R1/USEPA/US@EPA

cc Sharon Zaya/R1/USEPA/US@EPA,
mmattson@normandeau.com

Subject Fw: Need to Extend Subsampling at Merrimack Station

Eric, As we just discussed, the heavy debris loading continues in the Merrimack River. Our original time frame estimate was based a little bit on our knowledge of Mother Nature, but mostly on Merrimack Station operator anecdotal recollection since we've never really kept close track of leaves, branches, etc. As the attached email illustrates, however, the loading remains high and it would be very painstaking to begin collecting everything right now. Looking out my window at the roaring river and the leaves still on the trees, it's obvious that we undershot the runoff period.

NAI is requesting an additional week, and perhaps a second depending upon conditions. This email is to request an extension of the subsampling period for the next two weeks. If you'd like, I can contact you next week with the numbers to decide if the second week if necessary.

Thanks, Allan.

----- Forwarded by Allan G. Palmer/NUS on 11/15/2005 02:23 PM -----

Mark Mattson
<mmattson@normand
eau.com>

Allan G. Palmer/NUS@NU

To

cc

11/14/2005 12:37
PM

dtrested@normandeau.com,
rsimmons@normandeau.com

Subject

Need to Extend Subsampling at
Merrimack Station

Allan,

Our field crew is pleading for an extension of the debris subsampling protocol at Merrimack Station due to continued high amounts of leaves in the impingement collections. In the 6 one hour samples collected during the long interval (6-day) impingement sample for 3 Nov - 9 Nov we had 48 gallons of terrestrial vegetation (leaves) from Unit 1 and 48 gallons from Unit 2, representing 8 gallons per hour per unit. We would have had to collect and process an estimated 1152 gallons of leaves (38 trash cans full) per unit in those 6-day samples if we did not subsample.

Accordingly, we would like to continue with the one randomly selected hour per day per unit subsampling plan for the 6 day period 17-23 Nov and possibly again for the period 24-30 Nov 2005. Will you notify Eric Nelson of EPA of our intent, or do you want me to do it?

Take care.

Mark

><(((:(> ><(((:(> ><(((:(> ><(((:(>
Mark T. Mattson, Ph.D., Vice President
Normandeau Associates, Inc.
25 Nashua Road, Bedford, NH 03110
Phone: 603-472-5191 ext. 162
FAX: 603-471-8007

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{In Archive} Re: High Debris Loading Sampling Protocol 

Ericp Nelson to: palmeag

10/24/2005 12:08 PM

Cc: mmattson, Sharon Zaya

From: Ericp Nelson/R1/USEPA/US

To: palmeag@nu.com

Cc: mmattson@normandeau.com, Sharon Zaya/R1/USEPA/US@EPA

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Allan, Mark:

I've been thinking your proposed modification in the context of what the goal is of conducting six-day samples. These "long interval" samples, as Merrimack Station's monitoring plan indicates, were intended to detect the impingement of key migratory species (i.e., Atlantic salmon, shad, eel, alewife). I thought this was a good approach to quantifying the impingement of migrating fish, given what is likely to be the highly variable presence of these species as some move downstream now, and some in spring. The proposed sub-sampling will provide some useful information, but we will not consider it representative of the 6-day sampling since it does not appear to accomplish what the 6-day sampling was intended to do. I realize the plant is experiencing high loads, and processing these loads seems impractical, but it's unfortunate that the period when alewife might be moving downstream in significant numbers is not covered by long-interval sampling.

You may modify the 6-day sampling plan for the three-week period beginning 27 October, as described in the proposal you submitted by e-mail on 10/20/2005. We will review the subsampling data as a separate data set. The final report should present it as such.

The 24-hour samples will still be collected during this time period, as described in 2.4.2.2 in the sampling plan.

Call if you have any questions.

Regards,
Eric

Eric P. Nelson

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Email: nelson.ericp@epa.gov
palmeag@nu.com



palmeag@nu.com

10/20/2005 05:11 PM

To Ericp Nelson/R1/USEPA/US@EPA

cc mmattson@normandeau.com, Sharon
Zaya/R1/USEPA/US@EPA

Subject High Debris Loading Sampling Protocol

Eric, We have been trying to find a workable solution to address your issue regarding the integrity of long term samples during periods of high debris loading (a few weeks in the spring & fall). We have learned that these periods involve serious volumes of material that is impossible to collect and manage. Instead of keeping the baskets in-place and simply overflowing debris, we will continue to sample throughout the period, but will use much shorter durations.

Given current conditions and experience, we have targeted the fall period to run from 10/27 thru 11/17. When a 24-hour sample is not being collected during these 3 weeks, a random 1-hour sample will be collected each and every day. All impinged fish will be identified to the lowest practical taxon, regardless of species.

Obviously the critical time for this protocol is at hand so we ask for your prompt review and approval of this revision. We think this procedure provides substantial and continuous impingement information while allowing us to avoid much of the hassle of managing yards of debris. Thanks, Allan. (See attached file: High Debris Period Impingement Sampling Protocol 20 Oct 05.doc)

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High Debris Period Impingement Sampling Protocol 20 Oct 05.doc



{In Archive} Re: High Debris Loading Sampling Protocol
 palmeag to: Ericp Nelson
 Cc: Sharon Zaya

10/24/2005 06:40 PM

From: palmeag@nu.com
 To: Ericp Nelson/R1/USEPA/US@EPA
 Cc: Sharon Zaya/R1/USEPA/US@EPA
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Thank you Eric.

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{In Archive} Re: High Debris Loading Sampling Protocol 

Ericp Nelson to: palmeag

10/21/2005 02:05 PM

Cc: mmattson, Sharon Zaya, nelson.ericp

From: Ericp Nelson/R1/USEPA/US

To: palmeag@nu.com

Cc: mmattson@normandeau.com, Sharon Zaya/R1/USEPA/US@EPA, nelson.ericp@epa.gov

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Hi Allan:

Your revision seems reasonable given the conditions being encountered. I don't have access to my Merrimack Station files today, which I want to review before I give you a definitive response. I'll review them Monday morning and get back to you then.

Have a good weekend.

Eric

Eric P. Nelson

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Email: nelson.ericp@epa.gov



{In Archive} High Debris Loading Sampling Protocol

palmeag to: Ericp Nelson
Cc: mmattson, Sharon Zaya

10/20/2005 05:12 PM

From: palmeag@nu.com
To: Ericp Nelson/R1/USEPA/US@EPA
Cc: mmattson@normandeau.com, Sharon Zaya/R1/USEPA/US@EPA
Archive: This message is being viewed in an archive.
1 attachment



High Debris Period Impingement Sampling Protocol 20 Oct 05.doc

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