



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION I

J.F. KENNEDY FEDERAL BUILDING, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02203-2211

NEW BEDFORD  
4.11.89  
Other

May 11, 1989



SDMS DocID 000200852

John K. Bullard, Mayor  
City Hall  
133 William Street  
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Mayor Bullard:

I am writing in response to your letter of April 6, 1989 concerning PCB contaminated grit in the City's sewer system.

As you are aware, EPA is presently performing a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) on the New Bedford Superfund site. Our present schedule provides for selecting a remedial alternative and issuing a Record of Decision for the Hot Spot this coming September and for the remainder of the Upper Estuary and Lower Harbor and Bay in the Spring of 1990.

In your letter you requested that EPA include the grit in its ongoing studies to develop remedial alternatives for removal, treatment and/or disposal of contaminated Harbor sediments. We understand that the City will be defining the precise nature and extent of the contaminated grit in the near future; however, according to the August 31, 1987 report entitled, "Grit Study" by Camp, Dresser & McKee, the quantity of contaminated grit in the interceptor is approximately 4,000 to 4,500 cubic yards.

We have discussed your request within EPA and in the interest of cooperation have determined to include grit disposal in our studies of the Harbor cleanup. In agreeing to your request, however, we wish to note that our studies will evaluate only treatment and disposal of the grit, not its removal or transportation to any treatment or disposal unit. Further, the issue of compensation by the City for any costs associated with the treatment and/or disposal of the grit, as well as any potential liability for the Harbor cleanup will ultimately need to be resolved.

At this point, we are willing to meet to discuss this issue, but a more appropriate meeting time may be when our RI/FS study on the Hot Spot is complete in June of this year. At that time, we will be closer to developing the first part of a proposed cleanup plan and associated cost estimates. In any event, we shall keep

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your office posted on our progress through our monthly reports and meetings.

I look forward to working with the City in solving these major environmental problems.

Sincerely yours,

*Frank Ciavattieri*

Frank Ciavattieri  
New Bedford Harbor Project Manager

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