



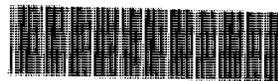
U. S. Environmental  
Protection Agency

Superfund Records Center

Site: New Bedford

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SDMS DocID 000200876



US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
New England Division

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

Contacts: Dave Dickerson, EPA Project Manager, 617-573-5735  
Johanna Hunter, Community Relations, (617) 565-3425

PROGRESS

REPORT FOR: January 11, 1996

### TREATABILITY STUDIES

The mixing of hot spot sediment samples and cement-like reagents for the bench scale solidification studies has been completed. The one month curing time has ended, and the samples will be sent out for extensive physical and chemical laboratory testing.

Regarding the larger pilot-scale studies, EPA's contractor, Ebasco, has selected three subcontractors for on-site field demonstrations of various sediment and PCB treatment technologies. The three subcontractors and their technologies are: a) Ionics RCC (who will use solvent extraction for PCB separation and solvated electron dechlorination for PCB destruction), b) Rust Federal Services Inc. (who will use thermal desorption for PCB separation and four different dechlorination processes for PCB destruction) and c) Geosafe Corporation (who will use vitrification, an electrical melting process, to destroy the PCBs and create an impermeable, glass-like product out of the treated sediments). The current schedule calls for each of these technologies to be field tested for two weeks this spring.

### FISHING BAN REMINDER

The US EPA and MA DEP would like to again remind people that a fishing ban continues to exist in the greater New Bedford Harbor area due to the high levels of PCB contamination in area seafood.

### AIR MONITORING

Air samples around the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) at the end of Sawyer Street continue to be collected while the hot spot sediments are stored until an alternative treatment technology is implemented. As a point of reference, the most stringent federal work place standard allows averaged 10-hour work day exposures of 1,000 nanograms per cubic meter (ng/m<sup>3</sup>); a nanogram is one-billionth of a gram.

Nov 28-29: average of 11 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 16 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Dec 13-14: average of 4 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 6 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Dec 28-29: average of 0.7 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 1.4 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;

PCB concentrations around the CDF remain safe and well below the 1000 ng/m<sup>3</sup> action level.

### MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the dredging/treatability subcommittee will be held on Wednesday, January 17, 1996 at 12:30 pm at the site trailer. The next community Forum meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 24, 1996 at 6:00 at the New Bedford Vocational Technical High School auditorium.



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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

Contacts: Dave Dickerson, EPA Project Manager, (508) 999-7270  
Johanna Hunter, Community Relations, (617) 565-3425

### Progress Report for November 30, 1995

#### TREATABILITY STUDIES

Progress continues on the bench scale studies. An additional sample of hot spot sediment has been collected from the Sawyer Street CDF for the bench scale studies. Mixing of sediments and solidification agents for the bench scale studies began on Thursday, November 30 and is expected to be completed by Monday, December 4. Once mixing has been completed, it will take approximately 28 days for the mixtures of sediments and solidification agents to cure. An examination of the physical and chemical characteristics of the stabilized solidified sediments will begin after the curing process has been completed. Recommendations for the pilot scale studies vendors are expected by EPA's consultant, Ebasco, shortly.

#### FISHING BAN REMINDER

The US EPA and MA DEP would like to again remind people that a fishing ban continues to exist in the greater New Bedford Harbor area due to the high levels of PCB contamination in area seafood.

#### AIR MONITORING

Air samples around the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) at the end of Sawyer Street continue to be collected while the hot spot sediments are stored until an alternative treatment technology is implemented. These air samples are collected over a 24-hour period from four stations surrounding the CDF. As a point of reference, the most stringent federal work place standard allows averaged 10-hour work day exposures of 1,000 nanograms per cubic meter ( $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ); a nanogram is one-billionth of a gram.

Nov 14-15: average of  $6 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $18 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;

PCB concentrations around the CDF remain safe and are still well below the  $1000 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$  action level.

#### UPCOMING TOUR OF LOCAL CONFINED DISPOSAL FACILITIES

The EPA and DEP are offering a tour of local Confined Disposal Facilities (CDFs) in New Bedford on Thursday, December 7, 1995 a 1:30 pm at the Maritime International Inc. location. All members of the Forum and the public are welcomed to take the tour. In case of bad weather, the tour will be postponed to a later date. Directions to the Maritime facility: From 195, take Route 18 south to the Purchase Street exit. Off the exit, take a left onto Purchase Street followed by a left at the first set of lights. Cross over Rt 18 and take a right. The Maritime facility is on the left.

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Forum meeting will be held on Thursday, December 7, 1995 at 6:00 pm in the auditorium of the New Bedford Vocational High School. The next meeting of the dredging/treatability subcommittee will be held on Thursday, December 7, 1995 at 3:00 pm at the site trailer after the tour of local Confined Disposal Facilities.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

Contacts: Dave Dickerson, EPA Project Manager, (508) 999-7270  
Johanna Hunter, Community Relations, (617) 565-3425

### Progress Report for November 16, 1995

#### TREATABILITY STUDIES

Samples of hot spot sediment taken from the CDF showed PCB levels below the desired concentration for the bench scale studies. As a result, an additional sample of hot spot sediment from the CDF will be collected. This will postpone the onset of the bench scale study until the week after the Thanksgiving holiday. Recommendations for the pilot scale vendors by EPA's consultant, Ebasco, are now scheduled for the end of November.

#### FISHING BAN REMINDER

The US EPA and MA DEP would like to again remind people that a fishing ban continues to exist in the greater New Bedford Harbor area due to the high levels of PCB contamination in area seafood.

#### AIR MONITORING

Air samples around the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) at the end of Sawyer Street continue to be collected while the hot spot sediments are stored until an alternative treatment technology is implemented. These air samples are collected over a 24-hour period from four stations surrounding the CDF. As a point of reference, the most stringent federal work place standard allows averaged 10-hour work day exposures of 1,000 nanograms per cubic meter (ng/m<sup>3</sup>); a nanogram is one-billionth of a gram.

Oct 25-26: average of 54 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 150 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Oct 30-31: average of 68 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 139 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;

PCB concentrations around the CDF remain safe and are still well below the 1000 ng/m<sup>3</sup> action level.

#### UPCOMING TOUR OF LOCAL CONFINED DISPOSAL FACILITIES

The EPA and DEP are offering a tour of local Confined Disposal Facilities (CDFs) in New Bedford on Thursday, December 7, 1995 at 1:30 pm at the Maritime International Inc. location. All members of the Forum and the public are welcomed to take the tour. In case of bad weather, the tour will be postponed to a later date. Directions to the Maritime facility: From 195, take Route 18 south to the Purchase Street exit. Off the exit, take a left onto Purchase Street followed by a left at the first set of lights. Cross over Rt 18 and take a right. The Maritime facility is on the left.

**MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Forum's next meeting will be open to the general public for anyone in the audience to ask questions of the Forum members. This meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 29, 1995 at 6:00 pm at the New Bedford Vocational Technical School auditorium. Please note that the first hour of this open meeting will be devoted to informational "poster" booths for people to browse through and informally learn about various harbor cleanup activities. The meeting will open for questions from the audience at 7:00 pm. There will also be a Forum meeting on Thursday, December 7, 1995 at 6:00 pm.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

Contacts: Dave Dickerson, EPA Project Manager, (508) 999-7270

Johanna Hunter, Community Relations, (617) 565-3425

### Progress Report for November 2, 1995

#### TREATABILITY STUDIES

The process of assessing the most promising non-incineration treatment technologies for the hot spot sediments continues to make progress. Mixing of sediments and solidification agents for the bench scale studies is now expected to be completed by mid November. This work will take place inside the laboratory trailer on the Sawyer Street site. EPA's consultant for implementation of these treatability studies, Ebasco, also expects to make its recommendations to EPA on the pilot scale chemical destruction vendors during the first week of November.

#### FISHING BAN REMINDER

The US EPA and MA DEP would like to again remind people that a fishing ban continues to exist in the greater New Bedford Harbor area due to the high levels of PCB contamination in area seafood. Specifically, it is against the law to take or sell lobsters anywhere north of a line extending from Mishaum Point in Dartmouth to the southern tip of West Island in Fairhaven. It is also against the law to take or sell any bottom-feeding fish (including flounder, tautog, scup and eel) anywhere north of the southern tip of Scotcut Neck. Finally, it is illegal to take or sell any fish (except bait fish), lobster or shellfish north of the hurricane dike in New Bedford Harbor.

#### AIR MONITORING

Air samples around the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) at the end of Sawyer Street continue to be collected while the hot spot sediments are stored until an alternative treatment technology is implemented. These air samples are collected over a 24-hour period from four stations surrounding the CDF. As a point of reference, the most stringent federal work place standard allows averaged 10-hour work day exposures of 1,000 nanograms per cubic meter ( $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ); a nanogram is one-billionth of a gram.

Oct 11-12: average of 51  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 145  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Oct 17-18: average of 107  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 183  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;

PCB concentrations around the CDF remain safe and are still well below the 1000  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$  action level.

#### EXPLANATION OF SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES

Responses to comments regarding the Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD) for the continued storage of the hot spot sediments were finalized on October 30, 1995 and are available at the Wilkes Branch Library at 1911 Achushnet Avenue, New Bedford, Massachusetts (508/991-6124).

SPECIAL PANEL MEETING FOR PHASE 2 TO BE HELD BY SEA CHANGE, INC.  
Sea Change, Inc., a local independent advisory organization, is sponsoring a special session to discuss EPA's proposed remedy for the next phase of harbor cleanup on November 14, 1995 at 6:30 pm at the Whaling Museum auditorium. Sea Change has convened a group of 6 independent scientists to review various issues associated with EPA's preferred harbor cleanup plan. All interested parties are encouraged to attend. Please contact Diana Cobbold of Sea Change at (508) 748-9655 for more information on this upcoming event.

The formal proposed cleanup plan for this next phase of harbor cleanup is currently scheduled for release in January 1996. This proposed plan will be used to solicit public comment on EPA's preferred cleanup approach.

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

In addition to the special Sea Change session discussed above, the Forum's next meeting will be open to the general public for anyone in the audience to ask questions of the Forum members. This meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 29, 1995 at 6:00 pm at the New Bedford Vocational Technical School auditorium. Please note that the first hour of this open meeting will be devoted to informational "poster" booths for people to browse through and informally learn about various harbor cleanup activities. The meeting will open up for questions from the audience at 7:00 pm.

The next meeting of the dredging/treatability subcommittee will be held on November 16, 1995 at 12:30 pm at the site trailer. Viewing of the on-going bench scale solidification studies is planned for this meeting.

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*Handwritten notes:*  
Dave Dickerson  
Johanna Hunter  
4/21/95 8:35



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New England Division

## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

**Contacts:** Dave Dickerson, EPA Project Manager, (508) 999-7270  
Johanna Hunter, Community Relations, (617) 565-3425

### Progress Report for October 19, 1995

#### TREATABILITY STUDIES

The process of assessing the most promising non-incineration treatment technologies for the hot spot sediments continues to make progress. Mixing of sediments and solidification agents for the bench scale studies is expected to be completed by the end of this month. This work will take place inside the laboratory trailer on the Sawyer Street site. EPA's consultant for implementation of these treatability studies, Ebasco, also expects to make its recommendations on the pilot scale chemical destruction vendors by the end of the month.

#### FISHING BAN REMINDER

The US EPA and MA DEP would like to again remind people that a fishing ban continues to exist in the greater New Bedford Harbor area due to the high levels of PCB contamination in area seafood. Specifically, it is against the law to take or sell lobsters anywhere north of a line extending from Mishaum Point in Dartmouth to the southern tip of West Island in Fairhaven. It is also against the law to take or sell any bottom-feeding fish (including flounder, tautog, scup and eel) anywhere north of the southern tip of Sconticut Neck. Finally, it is illegal to take or sell any fish (except bait fish), lobster or shellfish north of the hurricane dike in New Bedford Harbor.

#### AIR MONITORING

Air samples around the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) at the end of Sawyer Street continue to be collected while the hot spot sediments are stored until an alternative treatment technology is implemented. These air samples are collected over a 24-hour period from four stations surrounding the CDF. It should be noted that the levels reported below are preliminary until a final laboratory report is received. As a point of reference, the most stringent federal work place standard allows averaged 10-hour work day exposures of 1,000 nanograms per cubic meter (ng/m<sup>3</sup>); a nanogram is one-billionth of a gram.

Oct 04-05: average of 113 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 219 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;

PCB concentrations around the CDF remain safe and are still well below the 1000 ng/m<sup>3</sup> action level.

OPTIONAL FORM 99 (7-90)

#### FAX TRANSMITTAL

# of pages **2**

To <b>DAVE DICKERSON</b>	From <b>J HUNTER</b>
Dept./Agency	Phone #
Fax # <b>573-9662</b>	Fax #

**EXPLANATION OF SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES**

Responses to comments regarding the Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD) for the continued storage of the hot spot sediments have been finalized and will be available shortly.

**SPECIAL PANEL MEETING FOR PHASE 2 TO BE HELD BY SEA CHANGE, INC.**

Sea Change, Inc., a local independent advisory organization, is sponsoring a special session to discuss EPA's proposed remedy for the next phase of harbor cleanup on November 14, 1995 at 6:30 pm at the Whaling Museum auditorium. Sea Change has convened a group of 6 independent scientists to review various issues associated with EPA's preferred harbor cleanup plan. All interested parties are encouraged to attend. Please contact Diana Cobbold at (508) 748-9655 for more information on this upcoming event.

The formal proposed cleanup plan for this next phase of harbor cleanup is currently scheduled for release in January 1996. This proposed plan will be used to solicit public comment on EPA's preferred cleanup approach.

**MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next Community Forum meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 25, 1995 at 6:00 pm at the Greater New Bedford Vocational Technical School. The next meeting of the dredging and treatability subcommittees will be held on Wednesday, November 1, 1995 at 12:30 pm at the site trailer. Again, the special Sea Change panel session regarding phase 2 will be held on November 14, 1995 at 6:30 pm at the Whaling Museum.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

Contacts: Dave Dickerson, EPA Project Manager, (508) 999-7270  
Johanna Hunter, Community Relations, (617) 565-3425

### Progress Report for October 5, 1995

#### DREDGING

Dredging of the Acushnet River "hot spot" sediments located in areas A, C, D, E, F, G, and H was completed on 9/6/95. Decontamination and demobilization activities will continue this month for the hot spot dredging operation.

#### FISHING BAN REMINDER

The US EPA and MA DEP would like to again remind people that a fishing ban continues to exist in the greater New Bedford Harbor area due to the high levels of PCB contamination in area seafood. Specifically, it is against the law to take or sell lobsters anywhere north of a line extending from Mishaum Point in Dartmouth to the southern tip of West Island in Fairhaven. It is also against the law to take or sell any bottom-feeding fish (including flounder, tautog, scup and eel) anywhere north of the southern tip of Sconticut Neck. Finally, it is illegal to take or sell any fish (except bait fish), lobster or shellfish north of the hurricane dike in New Bedford Harbor.

#### AIR MONITORING

Air monitoring around the dredging area has been discontinued as of 9/6/95 since dredging of the Acushnet River "hot spot" sediments has been completed.

Collection of air samples around the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) at the end of Sawyer Street will be performed, as of 9/19/95, on a weekly basis. These air samples are and will be collected over a 24-hour period, usually from noon to noon. These levels are reported as nanograms per cubic meter ( $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ); a nanogram is one-billionth of a gram. It should be noted that the levels reported here are preliminary until a final laboratory report is received. As a point of reference, the most stringent federal work place standard allows averaged 10-hour work day exposures of  $1000 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ .

Sep 05-06: average of  $112 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $326 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Sep 07-08: average of  $59 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $133 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
  
Sep 11-12: average of  $103 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $428 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Sep 13-14: average of  $54 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $232 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
  
Sep 18-19: average of  $187 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $530 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
  
Sep 24-25: average of  $110 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $251 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;

Air monitoring around the CDF will continue to ensure that airborne PCB levels around the CDF remain safe and below the 1000 ng/m<sup>3</sup> action level while an alternative treatment technology can be evaluated.

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the dredging subcommittee will be held on Wednesday, November 1 at 12:30 pm at the site trailer. The next Community Forum meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 11, 1995 at 6:00 pm at the Greater New Bedford Vocational Technical School. The next maintenance dredging subcommittee meeting will be held on Friday, October 20, 1995 at 10:00 am the Marine Terminal.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

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Kristen Conroy, Community Relations, (617) 565-4154

### Progress Report for September 7, 1995

#### DREDGING IS COMPLETE!

We are pleased to announce that the "hot spot" phase of dredging in the Acushnet River was completed on September 6th. The one area B that was not dredged due to complications with submerged high voltage power lines will be addressed as part of the second phase of dredging. Decontamination and demobilization activities for the dredge, pipeline and air monitoring stations around the dredging area will be performed throughout the rest of this month. A media event is being scheduled for mid-September to recognize the completion of this very significant event in the project.

#### FISHING BAN REMINDER

The US EPA and MA DEP would like to again remind people that a fishing ban continues to exist in the greater New Bedford Harbor area due to the high levels of PCB contamination in area seafood. Specifically, it is against the law to take or sell lobsters anywhere north of a line extending from Mishaum Point in Dartmouth to the southern tip of West Island in Fairhaven. It is also against the law to take or sell any bottom-feeding fish (including flounder, tautog, scup and eel) anywhere north of the southern tip of Sconticut Neck. Finally, it is illegal to take or sell any fish (except bait fish), lobster or shellfish north of the hurricane dike in New Bedford Harbor.

#### AIR MONITORING

Air monitoring samples for airborne PCBs are collected from six locations around the dredging area on each day in which dredging activity occurs. These samples are collected over an 8-hour period during which the dredging activity occurs. These levels are reported as nanograms per cubic meter ( $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ); a nanogram is one-billionth of a gram. It should be noted that the levels reported here are preliminary until a final laboratory report is received. As a point of reference, the most stringent federal work place standard allows averaged 10-hour work day exposures of  $1000 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ .

Mon 8/21/95:	average of	28 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	108 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Tue 8/22/95:	average of	52 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	123 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Wed 8/23/95:	average of	55 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	229 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Th 8/24/95:	average of	63 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	188 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Fri 8/25/95:	average of	47 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	154 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Mon 8/28/95:	average of	27 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	109 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Tue 8/29/95:	average of	65 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	227 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Wed 8/30/95:	average of	106 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	260 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Th 8/31/95:	average of	49 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	152 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Fri 9/01/95:	average of	50 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	174 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;

Air monitoring around the dredging area has been discontinued as of 9/6/95 since dredging of the Acushnet River "hot spot" sediments has been completed.

Collection of air samples around the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) at the end of Sawyer Street occurs at least twice weekly during normal operations. These air samples are collected over a 24-hour period, usually from noon to noon.

Aug 21-22: average of 109 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 123 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Aug 22-23: average of 99 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 228 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Aug 28-29: average of 144 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 281 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Aug 30-31: average of 136 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 255 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;

Air monitoring around the CDF will continue on a weekly basis initially to ensure that airborne PCB levels around the CDF remain safe while an alternative treatment method is pursued. This monitoring frequency may be reduced, but not eliminated, over time if levels remain consistently low.

#### MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the dredging subcommittee will be held on Wednesday, September 13 at 12:30 pm at the site trailer. The next Community Forum meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 20, 1995 at 6:00 p.m. at the Greater New Bedford Vocational Technical School.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

Contacts: Dave Dickerson, EPA Project Manager, (508) 999-7270  
Kristen Conroy, Community Relations, (617) 565-4154

### Progress Report for August 24, 1995

#### DREDGING

Dredging of the Acushnet River "hot spot" sediments continues. Areas C, D, E, F, G and H have been completely dredged, and dredging is currently underway in Area A. To date, approximately 91% of the total hot spot areas have been dredged.

A final decision has been made to postpone dredging of Area B due to the location of various ComElectric cable lines. Dredging of Area B will be performed as part of ROD II activities.

Dredging of hot spot areas is expected to be complete in early September 1995.

#### FISHING BAN REMINDER

The US EPA and MA DEP would again like to take this opportunity to remind people that a fishing ban exists in the greater New Bedford Harbor area due to high levels of PCB contamination in area seafood. Specifically, it is against the law to take or sell lobsters anywhere north of a line extending from Mishaum Point in Dartmouth to the southern tip of West Island in Fairhaven. It is also against the law to take or sell any bottom-feeding fish (including flounder, tautog, scup and eel) anywhere north of the southern tip of Scotcut Neck. Finally, it is illegal to take or sell any fish (except bait fish), lobster or shellfish north of the hurricane dike in New Bedford Harbor.

#### AIR MONITORING

Air monitoring samples for airborne PCBs are collected from six locations around the dredging area on each day in which dredging activity occurs. These samples are collected over an 8-hour period during which the dredging activity occurs. These levels are reported as nanograms per cubic meter ( $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ); a nanogram is one-billionth of a gram. It should be noted that the levels reported here are preliminary until a final laboratory report is received. As a point of reference, the most stringent federal work place standard allows averaged 10-hour work day exposures of  $1000 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ .

Mon 8/07/95:	average of	38 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	131 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Tue 8/08/95:	average of	37 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	122 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Wed 8/09/95:	average of	61 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	236 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Th 8/10/95:	average of	64 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	179 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Fri 8/11/95:	average of	98 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	248 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Mon 8/14/95:	average of	60 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	182 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Tue 8/15/95:	average of	57 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	242 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Wed 8/16/95:	average of	34 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	132 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Th 8/17/95:	average of	93 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	310 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Fri 8/18/95:	average of	53 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	246 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;

Collection of air samples around the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) at the end of Sawyer Street occurs at least twice weekly during normal operations. These air samples are collected over a 24-hour period, usually from noon to noon.

Aug 08-09: average of 170 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 376 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Aug 10-11: average of 30 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 112 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Aug 14-15: average of 231 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 970 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Aug 16-17: average of 240 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 809 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;

Elevated airborne PCB levels around the CDF occurred as a result of the disposal of dredged materials in the CDF during high temperature weather conditions. These levels will continue to be closely monitored over time to ensure that airborne PCB levels around the CDF remain safe and below the 1000 ng/m<sup>3</sup> action level.

#### MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the dredging subcommittee will be held on Wednesday, September 13 at 12:30 pm at the site trailer. The next Community Forum meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 5, 1995 at 6:00 at the Greater New Bedford Vocational Technical School auditorium.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

Contacts: Dave Dickerson, EPA Project Manager, (508) 999-7270

Kristen Conroy, Community Relations, (617) 565-4154

### Progress Report for August 10, 1995

#### DREDGING

Dredging of the Acushnet River "hot spot" sediments continues. Areas D, E, F, G and H have been completely dredged, and dredging is currently underway in Area C. To date, approximately 88% of the total hot spot areas have been dredged. Dredging is currently expected to be completed in all these areas by September 1995.

#### FISHING BAN REMINDER

The US EPA and MA DEP would again like to take this opportunity to remind people that a fishing ban exists in the greater New Bedford Harbor area due to high levels of PCB contamination in area seafood. Specifically, it is against the law to take or sell lobsters anywhere north of a line extending from Mishaum Point in Dartmouth to the southern tip of West Island in Fairhaven. It is also against the law to take or sell any bottom-feeding fish (including flounder, tautog, scup and eel) anywhere north of the southern tip of Sconticut Neck. Finally, it is illegal to take or sell any fish (except bait fish), lobster or shellfish north of the hurricane dike in New Bedford Harbor.

#### AIR MONITORING

Air monitoring samples for airborne PCBs are collected from six locations around the dredging area on each day in which dredging activity occurs. These samples are collected over an 8-hour period during which the dredging activity occurs. These levels are reported as nanograms per cubic meter ( $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ); a nanogram is one-billionth of a gram. It should be noted that the levels reported here are preliminary until a final laboratory report is received. As a point of reference, the most stringent federal work place standard allows averaged 10-hour work day exposures of  $1000 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ .

Mon 7/24/95:	average of	76 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	200 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Tue 7/25/95:	average of	103 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	417 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Wed 7/26/95:	average of	105 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	280 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Th 7/27/95:	average of	98 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	227 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Fri 7/28/95:	average of	152 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	580 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Mon 7/31/95:	average of	85 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	431 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Tue 8/01/95:	average of	55 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	117 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Wed 8/02/95:	average of	52 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	123 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Th 8/03/95:	average of	50 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	213 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Fri 8/04/95:	average of	45 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	164 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;

Collection of air samples around the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) at the end of Sawyer Street occurs at least twice weekly during normal operations. These air samples are collected over a 24-hour period, usually from noon to noon.

Jul 25-26: average of 89 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 373 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;

Jul 27-28: average of 109 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 411 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;

Aug 01-02: average of 81 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 317 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;

Aug 02-03: average of 142 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 368 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;

These levels will continue to be closely monitored over time to ensure that airborne PCB levels around the CDF remain safe.

#### MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the dredging subcommittee will be held on Wednesday, August 16 at 12:30 pm at the site trailer. The next Community Forum meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 22, 1995 at 6:00 at the Greater New Bedford Vocational Technical School cafeteria.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

Contacts: Dave Dickerson, EPA Project Manager, (508) 999-7270  
Kristen Conroy, Community Relations, (617) 565-4154

### Progress Report for July 27, 1995

#### DREDGING

Dredging of the Acushnet River "hot spot" sediments continues. Areas D, E, F, G and H have been completely dredged, and dredging is currently underway in Area C. To date, approximately 86% of the total hot spot areas have been dredged. The estimated completion date for all dredging has been moved up from October to September 1995.

The two small remaining hot spot areas A and B may be impacted by nearby underwater high voltage powerlines. The project team has been working with engineers from ComElectric to map the location of the various cables, and to identify an appropriate buffer distance away from these cables. A final decision will be made soon as to whether some of areas A and B will be skipped and dredged at a later date.

#### FISHING BAN REMINDER

The US EPA and MA DEP would again like to take this opportunity to remind people that a fishing ban exists in the greater New Bedford Harbor area due to high levels of PCB contamination in area seafood. Specifically, it is against the law to take or sell lobsters anywhere north of a line extending from Mishaum Point in Dartmouth to the southern tip of West Island in Fairhaven. It is also against the law to take or sell any bottom-feeding fish (including flounder, tautog, scup and eel) anywhere north of the southern tip of Sconticut Neck. Finally, it is illegal to take or sell any fish (except bait fish), lobster or shellfish north of the hurricane dike in New Bedford Harbor.

#### AIR MONITORING

Air monitoring samples for airborne PCBs are collected from six locations around the dredging area on each day in which dredging activity occurs. These samples are collected over an 8-hour period during which the dredging activity occurs. These levels are reported as nanograms per cubic meter ( $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ); a nanogram is one-billionth of a gram. It should be noted that the levels reported here are preliminary until a final laboratory report is received. As a point of reference, the most stringent federal work place standard allows averaged 10-hour work day exposures of  $1000 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ .

Mon 7/10/95:	average of	52 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	104 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Tue 7/11/95:	average of	86 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	217 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Wed 7/12/95:	average of	75 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	247 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Th 7/13/95:	average of	122 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	305 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Fri 7/14/95:	average of	99 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	319 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Mon 7/17/95:	average of	37 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	140 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Tue 7/18/95:	average of	31 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	119 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Wed 7/19/95:	average of	56 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	136 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Th 7/20/95:	average of	118 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	493 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Fri 7/21/95:	average of	83 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	201 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;

Collection of air samples around the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) at the end of Sawyer Street occurs at least twice weekly during normal operations. These air samples are collected over a 24-hour period, usually from noon to noon.

Jul 11-12: average of 104 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 237 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;

Jun 13-14: average of 28 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 94 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;

Jul 17-18: average of 94 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 186 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;

Jul 19-20: average of 203 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 331 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;

These levels will continue to be closely monitored over time to ensure that airborne PCB levels around the CDF remain safe.

#### WATER TREATMENT PLANT

Seawater that is pumped to the CDF along with the dredged hot spot sediment is treated to remove contaminants before being discharged back to the Achushnet River. During June 1995, the treatment plant met all monthly average and daily maximum discharge requirements.

#### MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the dredging subcommittee will be held on Wednesday, August 16 at 12:30 pm at the site trailer. The next Community Forum meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 22, 1995 at 6:00 at the Greater New Bedford Vocational Technical School cafeteria.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

Contacts: Dave Dickerson, EPA Project Manager, (508) 999-7270  
Kristen Conroy, Community Relations, (617) 565-4154

### Progress Report for July 13, 1995

#### DREDGING

Dredging of the Acushnet River "hot spot" sediments continues. Areas D, E, F, G and H have been completely dredged, including all redredging. Dredging continues in Area C. To date, approximately 81% of the total hot spot areas have been dredged. Dredging is currently expected to be completed in all these areas by October 1995.

#### FISHING BAN REMINDER

The US EPA and MA DEP would like to take this opportunity to remind people that a fishing ban exists in the greater New Bedford Harbor area due to high levels of PCB contamination in area seafood. Specifically, it is against the law to take or sell lobsters anywhere north of a line extending from Mishaum Point in Dartmouth to the southern tip of West Island in Fairhaven. It is also against the law to take or sell any bottom-feeding fish (including flounder, tautog, scup and eel) anywhere north of the southern tip of Sciticut Neck. Finally, it is illegal to take or sell any fish (except bait fish), lobster or shellfish north of the hurricane dike in New Bedford Harbor.

#### AIR MONITORING

Air monitoring samples for airborne PCBs are collected from six locations around the dredging area on each day in which dredging activity occurs. These samples are collected over an 8-hour period during which the dredging activity occurs. These levels are reported as nanograms per cubic meter ( $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ); a nanogram is one-billionth of a gram. It should be noted that the levels reported here are preliminary until a final laboratory report is received. As a point of reference, the most stringent federal work place standard allows averaged 10-hour work day exposures of  $1000 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ .

Mon 6/19/95:	average of	64 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	144 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Tue 6/20/95:	average of	69 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	189 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Wed 6/21/95:	average of	21 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	56 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Th 6/22/95:	average of	14 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	34 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Fri 6/23/95:	average of	24 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	97 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Mon 6/26/95:	average of	49 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	121 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Tue 6/27/95:	average of	23 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	132 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Wed 6/28/95:	average of	66 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	312 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Th 6/29/95:	average of	85 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	288 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Fri 6/30/95:	average of	150 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	541 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Wed 7/5/95:	average of	68 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	217 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Th 7/6/95:	average of	111 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	300 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Fri 7/7/95:	average of	49 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of	180 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;

Collection of air samples around the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) at the end of Sawyer Street occurs at least twice weekly during normal operations. These air samples are collected over a 24-hour period, usually from noon to noon.

Jun 19-20:	average of 157 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ,	maximum of 223 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ;
Jun 21-22:	average of 247 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ,	maximum of 718 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ;
Jun 27-28:	average of 121 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ,	maximum of 240 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ;
Jun 29-30:	average of 108 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ,	maximum of 475 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ;
Jul 05-06:	average of 232 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ,	maximum of 1085 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ;
Jul 06-07:	average of 135 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ,	maximum of 648 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ;

These levels will continue to be closely monitored over time to ensure that airborne PCB levels around the CDF remain safe.

#### MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the dredging subcommittee will be held on Tuesday, July 18 at 6:30 pm at the site trailer. The next Community Forum meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 25, 1995 at 6:00 pm at the Greater New Bedford Vocational Technical School cafeteria.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

Contacts: Dave Dickerson, EPA Project Manager, (508) 999-7270  
Kristen Conroy, Community Relations, (617) 565-4154

### Progress Report for June 22, 1995

#### DREDGING

Dredging of the Acushnet River "hot spot" sediments continues. Areas D, E, F, G and H have been completely dredged, including all redredging. Dredging continues in Area C. To date, approximately 76% of the total hot spot areas have been dredged. Dredging is currently expected to be completed in all these areas by October 1995.

#### AIR MONITORING

Air monitoring samples for airborne PCBs are collected from six locations around the dredging area on each day in which dredging activity occurs. These samples are collected over an 8-hour period during which the dredging activity occurs. These levels are reported as nanograms per cubic meter ( $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ); a nanogram is one-billionth of a gram. It should be noted that the levels reported here are preliminary until a final laboratory report is received. As a point of reference, the most stringent federal work place standard allows averaged 10-hour work day exposures of  $1000 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ .

Mon 6/05/95:	average of $131 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of $421 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Tue 6/06/95:	average of $167 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of $622 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Wed 6/07/95:	average of $29 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of $119 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Th 6/08/95:	average of $56 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of $224 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Fri 6/09/95:	average of $56 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of $293 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Mon 6/12/95:	average of $75 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of $233 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Tue 6/13/95:	average of $44 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of $217 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Wed 6/14/95:	average of $42 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of $197 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Th 6/15/95:	average of $41 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of $109 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Fri 6/16/95:	average of $76 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of $207 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;

Collection of air samples around the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) at the end of Sawyer Street occurs at least twice weekly during normal operations. These air samples are collected over a 24-hour period, usually from noon to noon.

Jun 05-06:	average of $27 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of $76 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Jun 07-08:	average of $116 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of $291 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Jun 13-14:	average of $79 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of $179 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Jun 15-16:	average of $80 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of $190 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;

These levels at the CDF indicate that recent site mitigation measures continue to be effective in controlling airborne PCB levels. These levels will be closely monitored over time to ensure that these mitigation measures remain effective.

WATER TREATMENT PLANT

Seawater that is pumped to the CDF along with the dredged hot spot sediments is treated to remove contaminants before being discharged back to the Acushnet River. During May 1995, the treatment plant once again met all monthly average and daily maximum discharge requirements.

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next community Forum meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 25, 1995 at 6:00 pm at the Greater New Bedford Vocational Technical School cafeteria.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

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### Progress Report for June 8, 1995

#### DREDGING

Dredging of the Acushnet River "hot spot" sediments continues. Areas D, E, F, G and H have been completely dredged, including all redredging. Dredging continues in Area C. To date, approximately 72% of the total hot spot areas have been dredged. Dredging is currently expected to be completed in all these areas by October 1995.

#### AIR MONITORING

Air monitoring samples for airborne PCBs are collected from six locations around the dredging area on each day in which dredging activity occurs. These samples are collected over an 8-hour period during which the dredging activity occurs. These levels are reported as nanograms per cubic meter ( $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ); a nanogram is one-billionth of a gram. It should be noted that the levels reported here are preliminary until a final laboratory report is received. As a point of reference, the most stringent federal work place standard allows averaged 10-hour work day exposures of  $1000 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ .

Mon 5/22/95: average of  $131 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $429 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Tue 5/23/95: average of  $200 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $688 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Wed 5/24/95: average of  $159 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $489 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;

(NOTE: dredging did not occur on 5/23 and 5/24 due to high winds and choppy sea conditions)

Wed 5/31/95: average of  $92 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $253 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Th 6/01/95: average of  $143 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $376 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Fri 6/02/95: average of  $158 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $444 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;

Collection of air samples around the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) at the end of Sawyer Street occurs at least twice weekly during normal operations. These air samples are collected over a 24-hour period, usually from noon to noon.

May 22-23: average of  $125 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $243 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
May 25-26: average of  $132 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $326 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
May 30-31: average of  $29 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $44 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
5/31 -6/1: average of  $116 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $381 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;

These levels at the CDF indicate that recent site mitigation measures have been effective in controlling airborne PCB levels. These levels will continue to be closely monitored to ensure that these mitigation measures remain effective over time.

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next community Forum meeting will be held on Tuesday June 13, 1995 at 6:00 pm at the Greater New Bedford Vocational Technical School cafeteria. The next meeting of the dredging subcommittee is scheduled for Thursday June 22 at 12:30 pm at the site trailer.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

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Kristen Conroy, Community Relations, (617) 565-4154

### Progress Report for May 25, 1995

#### DREDGING

Dredging of the Acushnet River "hot spot" sediments continues. Areas D, E, F, G and H have been completely dredged, including all redredging. Dredging is now underway in Area C, which is now more than one-third complete. To date, approximately 68% of the total hot spot areas have been dredged.

#### INTERIM STORAGE OF DREDGED SEDIMENTS

EPA has extended the comment period for the "Explanation of Significant Differences" (or ESD) document to May 30, 1995. This ESD outlines EPA's proposal for storing the hot spot sediments while alternative treatment technologies are evaluated. The ESD explains EPA's proposal to store the sediments at the Sawyer Street Confined Disposal Facility (or CDF), and to implement a series of site-related improvements and activities, including extensive air and groundwater monitoring, to ensure that the CDF remains a safe and secure storage facility. The ESD is available for review at the Wilks Branch Library at 1911 Acushnet Avenue in New Bedford.

#### AIR MONITORING

Air monitoring samples for airborne PCBs are collected from six locations around the dredging area on each day in which dredging activity occurs. These samples are collected over an 8-hour period during which the dredging activity occurs. These levels are reported as nanograms per cubic meter ( $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ); a nanogram is one-billionth of a gram. It should be noted that the levels reported here are preliminary until a final laboratory report is received. As a point of reference, the most stringent federal work place standard allows averaged 10-hour work day exposures of  $1000 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ .

Mon 5/08/95:	average of 4 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 15 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Tue 5/09/95:	average of 106 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 163 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Wed 5/10/95:	average of 57 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 195 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Th 5/11/95:	average of 12 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 60 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Fri 5/12/95:	average of 16 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 39 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Mon 5/15/95:	average of 35 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 172 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Tue 5/16/95:	average of 94 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 462 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Wed 5/17/95:	average of 37 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 171 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Th 5/18/95:	average of 87 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 313 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Fri 5/19/95:	average of 28 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 135 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;

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Collection of air samples around the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) at the end of Sawyer Street occurs at least twice weekly during normal operations. These air samples are collected over a 24-hour period, usually from noon to noon.

May 08-09: average of 121 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 216 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
May 11-12: average of 55 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 81 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
May 16-17: average of 244 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 887 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
May 18-19: average of 97 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 233 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;

May 22-23  
26

107  
121

245  
226

- to tel. subcommittee

Although these levels are lower than in the previous report, an air monitoring investigation is scheduled while all operations (i.e., dredging and water treatment) are shut down to further identify causes of airborne PCBs around the CDF.

#### MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the dredging subcommittee has been changed from Tuesday, June 6, 1995 at 6:30 pm to Thursday, June 1 at 1:00 pm at the site trailer. The next community Forum meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 13, 1995 at 6:00 pm at the Greater New Bedford Vocational Technical School cafeteria.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

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### Progress Report for May 11, 1995

#### DREDGING

Dredging of the Acushnet River "hot spot" sediments continues. Areas D, E, F, G and H have been completely dredged, including all redredging. Dredging is now underway in Area C. To date, approximately 65% of the hot spot areas have been dredged.

#### INTERIM STORAGE OF DREDGED SEDIMENTS

EPA has extended the comment period for the "Explanation of Significant Differences" (or ESD) document to May 30, 1995. This ESD outlines EPA's proposal for storing the hot spot sediments while alternative treatment technologies are evaluated. This ESD is available for review at the Wilks Branch Library at 1911 Acushnet Avenue in New Bedford. This document explains EPA's proposal to store the sediments at the Sawyer Street Confined Disposal Facility (or CDF), and to implement a series of site-related improvements and activities, including extensive air and groundwater monitoring, to ensure that the CDF remains a safe and secure storage facility.

#### WATER TREATMENT PLANT

Seawater that is pumped to the CDF along with the contaminated sediments is treated with enhanced filtration and ultra-violet light radiation techniques. During April 1995, all monthly average and daily maximum discharge limitations were achieved.

#### AIR MONITORING

Air monitoring samples for airborne PCBs are collected from six locations around the dredging area on each day in which dredging activity occurs. These samples are collected over an 8-hour period during which the dredging activity occurs. These levels are reported as nanograms per cubic meter ( $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ); a nanogram is one-billionth of a gram. It should be noted that the levels reported here are preliminary until a final laboratory report is received. As a point of reference, the most stringent federal work place standard allows averaged 10-hour work day exposures of  $1000 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ .

Fri 4/21/95: average of 23  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 83  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
 Mon 4/24/95: average of 28  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 122  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
 Tue 4/25/95: average of 28  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 131  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
 Wed 4/26/95: average of 37  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 106  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
 Th 4/27/95: average of 62  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 301  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
 Fri 4/28/95: average of 47  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 139  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;

Mon 5/01/95: average of 20  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 108  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
 Tue 5/02/95: average of 26  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 92  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
 Wed 5/03/95: average of 28  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 119  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
 Th 5/04/95: average of 66  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 290  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
 Fri 5/05/95: average of 93  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 432  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;

Collection of air samples around the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) at the end of Sawyer Street occurs at least twice weekly during normal operations. These air samples are collected over a 24-hour period, usually from noon to noon.

Apr 25-26: average of 205 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 613 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Apr 27-28: average of 157 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 728 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
May 02-03: average of 115 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 327 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
May 04-05: average of 248 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 1113 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;

Due to the high maximum values at the CDF, the Army Corps of Engineers and their contractor continue to make improvements to the CDF to control airborne PCB levels.

#### MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the treatability subcommittee is scheduled for Wednesday, May 17, 1995 at 1:00 pm at the site trailer. The next meeting of the dredging subcommittee is scheduled for Tuesday, June 6, 1995 at 6:30 pm at the site trailer. The next community Forum meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 13, 1995 (not Tuesday, June 6 as reported here last) at 6:00 pm at the Greater New Bedford Vocational Technical School cafeteria.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

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Kristen Conroy, Community Relations, (617) 565-4154

### Progress Report for April 27, 1995

#### DREDGING

Dredging of the Acushnet River "hot spot" sediments continues. Areas D, E, F, G and H have been completely dredged, including all redredging. Dredging is now underway in Area C. To date, approximately 60% of the hot spot areas have been dredged.

#### INTERIM STORAGE OF DREDGED SEDIMENTS

As a reminder, EPA is soliciting comments through May 1, 1995 on the "Explanation of Significant Differences" (or ESD) document which outlines EPA's proposal for storing the hot spot sediments while alternative treatment technologies are evaluated. This ESD is available for review at the Wilkes Branch Library at 1911 Acushnet Avenue in New Bedford. This document explains EPA's proposal to store the sediments at the Sawyer Street (New Bedford) Confined Disposal Facility, and to implement a series of site-related improvements and activities, including extensive air and groundwater monitoring, to ensure that the CDF remains a safe and secure storage facility.

#### AIR MONITORING

Air monitoring samples for airborne PCBs are collected from six locations around the dredging area on each day in which dredging activity occurs. These samples are collected over an 8-hour period during which the dredging activity occurs. These levels are reported as nanograms per cubic meter ( $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ); a nanogram is one-billionth of a gram. It should be noted that the levels reported here are preliminary until a final laboratory report is received. As a point of reference, the most stringent federal work place standard allows averaged 10-hour work day exposures of  $1000 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ .

Wed 4/05/95:	average of 25 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of 87 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Th 4/06/95:	average of 38 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of 73 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Mon 4/10/95:	average of 15 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of 57 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Tue 4/11/95:	average of 29 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of 139 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Wed 4/12/95:	average of 9 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of 32 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Th 4/13/95:	average of 77 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of 177 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Fri 4/14/95:	average of 44 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of 174 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Mon 4/17/95:	average of 35 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of 107 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Tue 4/18/95:	average of 51 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of 163 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Wed 4/19/95:	average of 33 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of 111 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Th 4/20/95:	average of 50 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of 176 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;

Collection of air samples around the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) at the end of Sawyer Street occurs at least twice weekly during normal operations. These air samples are collected over a 24-hour period, usually from noon to noon.

Apr 5 - 6: average of 50 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 129 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Apr 6 - 7: average of 90 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 246 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Apr 11-12: average of 221 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 860 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Apr 13-14: average of 88 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 214 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Apr 17-18: average of 332 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 1277 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Apr 19-20: average of 120 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 170 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;

The Corps and their contractor continue to take steps to minimize airborne PCB levels at the CDF.

#### WATER TREATMENT PLANT

Seawater that is pumped to the CDF along with the contaminated sediments is treated with enhanced filtration and ultra-violet light radiation techniques. During February 1995, all monthly average and daily maximum discharge limitations were achieved. During March 1995, all such limits were also met, except for one minor exceedance of the daily maximum limit for lead: on March 3, ten (10) parts per billion (ppb) of lead was detected, which is slightly over the daily limit of 8.5 ppb.

#### MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next community Forum meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 6, 1995 at 6:00 pm at the Greater New Bedford Vocational Technical School cafeteria. The next dredging subcommittee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 9, 1995 at 6:30 pm at the site trailer.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

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### Progress Report for April 13, 1995

#### DREDGING

Dredging of the Acushnet River "hot spot" sediments continues. Redredging operations in Area G have been completed, and redredging is now being finalized in Area D. Once Area D is completed (scheduled for 4/14/95) Areas D, E, F, G and H will be completely dredged. The local dredging subcommittee met with the project team on Tuesday, April 11, 1995 to discuss overall project status. Since all dredging operations since the last progress report have only involved redredging (as opposed to new dredging) the percent completed remains at approximately 55%. The revised estimated completion date for this hot spot dredging is now September 1995.

#### INTERIM STORAGE OF DREDGED SEDIMENTS

As a reminder, EPA is soliciting comments through May 1, 1995 on the "Explanation of Significant Differences" (or ESD) document which outlines EPA's proposal for storing the hot spot sediments while alternative treatment technologies are evaluated. This ESD is available at the Wilkes Branch Library at 1911 Acushnet Avenue in New Bedford. This document explains EPA's proposal to store the sediments at the Sawyer Street Confined Disposal Facility, and to implement a series of site-related improvements and activities, including extensive air and groundwater monitoring, to ensure that the CDF remains a safe and secure storage facility.

#### AIR MONITORING

Air monitoring samples for airborne PCBs are collected from six locations around the dredging area on each day in which dredging activity occurs. These samples are collected over an 8-hour period during which the dredging activity occurs. These levels are reported as nanograms per cubic meter ( $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ); a nanogram is one-billionth of a gram. It should be noted that the levels reported here are preliminary until a final laboratory report is received. As a point of reference, the most stringent federal workplace standard allows averaged 10-hour work day exposures of  $1000 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ .

Mon 3/27/95: average of  $41 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $227 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
NOTE: sediment dredging did NOT take place on 3/27  
Tue 3/28/95: average of  $19 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $82 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Wed 3/29/95: average of  $18 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $82 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Th 3/30/95: average of  $21 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $81 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Fri 3/31/95: average of  $51 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $186 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Mon 4/3/95: average of  $31 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $142 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Tue 4/4/95: average of  $50 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $132 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;

Collection of air samples around the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) at the end of Sawyer Street occurs at least twice weekly during normal operations. These air samples are collected over a 24-hour period, usually from noon to noon.

Mar 27-28: average of 91 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 245 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Mar 30-31: average of 170 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 612 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Apr 3 - 4: average of 163 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 627 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;

#### CLEANUP PLAN FOR THE NEXT PHASE OF DREDGING

EPA will present its proposed cleanup plan for the second phase of dredging at the next Community Forum meeting on April 25th. We encourage all interested parties to attend this special briefing, and to provide input and ask any questions about this phase at that time. EPA plans to solicit formal public comment on the cleanup plan later this year, so it is very important that concerned parties become familiar with the plan as soon as possible.

#### MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next community Forum meeting will be held on Tuesday April 25th at 6:00 pm at the Greater New Bedford Vocational Technical School auditorium. As noted above, EPA will present its proposed cleanup plan for the second phase of dredging at this meeting. The next dredging subcommittee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday May 9, 1995 at 6:30 pm at the site trailer.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

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### Progress Report for March 30, 1995

#### DREDGING

Dredging of the Acushnet River "hot spot" sediments continues. Due to the continued existence of elevated PCB levels in river sediment, redredging operations in Area G remain underway. Since no new areas have been dredged since the last progress report, the percent completed, which is calculated on an area basis, remains at approximately 55%.

#### INTERIM STORAGE OF DREDGED SEDIMENTS

Due to the need to evaluate treatment technologies other than incineration for the dredged hot spot sediments, these sediments will need to be stored until a final treatment technology is actually implemented. The "road" to final treatment will include on-site treatability studies, formal decision making, engineering redesign, and a new procurement process for selection of a treatment vendor. This process, including the actual treatment itself, is estimated to take four to five years.

Since this need for interim storage is a change from the original cleanup plan, EPA is required to publish and solicit comments on a "Explanation of Significant Difference" (or ESD) document. This document explains EPA's proposal to store the sediments during this period at the Sawyer Street Confined Disposal Facility (or CDF). EPA proposes to implement a series of site-related improvements and activities, including extensive air and groundwater monitoring, to ensure that the CDF remains a safe and secure storage facility. A copy of the ESD is available for review at the Wilkes Branch Public Library, 1911 Acushnet Avenue. EPA will accept written comments on the ESD until May 1, 1995.

#### AIR MONITORING

Air monitoring samples for airborne PCBs are collected from six locations around the dredging area on each day in which dredging occurs. These samples are collected over an 8-hour period during which the dredging and dredging-related activities take place. These levels are reported as nanograms per cubic meter ( $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ); a nanogram is one-billionth of a gram. It should be noted that the levels reported here are preliminary until a final laboratory report is received:

Mon 3/13/95:	average of 35 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 109 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Tue 3/14/95:	average of 31 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 142 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Wed 3/15/95:	average of 24 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 60 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Th 3/16/95:	average of 32 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 151 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Fri 3/17/95:	average of 32 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 158 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Mon 3/20/95:	average of 52 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 248 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Tue 3/21/95:	average of 95 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 285 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Wed 3/22/95:	average of 41 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 92 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Th 3/23/95:	average of 29 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 90 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Fri 3/24/95:	average of 27 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 127 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;

Collection of air samples around the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) at the end of Sawyer Street occurs at least twice weekly during normal operations. These air samples are collected over a 24-hour period, usually from noon to noon.

Mar 14-15: average of 47 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 159 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Mar 16-17: average of 68 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 229 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Mar 20-21: average of 165 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 623 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Mar 22-23: average of 44 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 97 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;

#### CLEANUP PLAN FOR THE NEXT PHASE OF DREDGING

EPA will present its proposed cleanup plan for the second phase of dredging at the next Community Forum meeting on April 25th. We urge all interested parties to attend this special briefing, and to provide input and ask any questions about it at that time. EPA plans to solicit public comment on the cleanup plan later this year, so it is very important that concerned parties become familiar with the plan as soon as possible.

#### MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next community Forum meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 25th at 6:00 pm at the Greater New Bedford Vocational Technical School auditorium. As noted above, EPA will present its proposed cleanup plan for the second phase of dredging at this meeting. The next dredging subcommittee meeting is scheduled for April 11th at 6:30 pm at the site trailer.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

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Kristen Conroy, Community Relations, (617) 565-4154

### Progress Report for March 16, 1995

#### DREDGING

Dredging of the Acushnet River "hot spot" sediments continues. Confirmatory sampling to determine whether remaining sediments in the dredged areas are below project levels (i.e., below 4,000 parts per million of PCBs) showed Areas E and F to be sufficiently dredged, but that Area G needed additional dredging. This redredging in Area G is now underway. To date, approximately 55% (by area) of the total hot spot areas have been dredged.

#### INTERIM STORAGE OF DREDGED SEDIMENTS

Due to the need to evaluate treatment technologies other than incineration for the dredged hot spot sediments, these sediments will need to be stored until a final treatment technology is actually implemented. The "road" to final treatment will include on-site treatability studies, formal decision making, engineering redesign, and a new procurement process for selection of a treatment vendor. This process, including the actual treatment itself, is estimated to take 4 - 5 years. Since this need for interim storage is a change from the original cleanup plan, EPA is required to publish and solicit comments on a "Explanation of Significant Difference" (ESD) document. This document explains the changed condition, describes new environmental regulations which come into play, and details the measures that EPA will undertake to comply with these new regulations.

The ESD will be discussed at the next community Forum meeting on March 28, 1995 (the Forum will start at 6:00 pm, and the ESD discussion will start at 7:00 pm). EPA will accept written comments on the ESD and the sediment storage issue until May 1, 1995. The ESD will also be available for review at the New Bedford Public Library at 613 Pleasant Street.

#### AIR MONITORING

Air monitoring samples for airborne PCBs are collected from six locations around the dredging area on each day in which dredging occurs. These samples are collected over an 8-hour period during which the dredging and dredging-related activities take place. These levels are reported as nanograms per cubic meter ( $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ); a nanogram is one-billionth of a gram. It should be noted that the levels reported here are preliminary until a final laboratory report is received:

Fri 2/24/95: average of  $31 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $69 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Mon 2/27/95: average of  $8 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $34 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Tue 2/28/95: average of  $34 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $105 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Wed 3/1/95: average of  $16 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $76 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Th 3/2/95: average of  $13 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $41 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Fri 3/3/95: average of  $8 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $31 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;

Note: dredging did NOT occur on 3/6, 3/7 and 3/8/95, the dredge was being relocated on 3/8:

Mon 3/6/95: average of 20 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 44 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Tue 3/7/95: average of 22 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 97 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Wed 3/8/95: average of 224 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 639 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
(NOTE: Wednesday, March 8th was very warm and windy, which most likely accounts for the high readings)  
Th 3/9/95: average of 21 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 47 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Fri 3/10/95: average of 12 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 24 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;

Collection of air samples around the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) at the end of Sawyer Street occurs at least twice weekly during normal operations. These air samples are collected over a 24-hour period, usually from noon to noon.

*March* 2/28-3/1: average of 53 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 102 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Feb 2-3: average of 26 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 67 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Feb 6-7: average of 80 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 98 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Feb 8-9: average of 82 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 275 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;

#### TREATABILITY STUDIES

A meeting with the Forum treatability subcommittee was held on March 8th to discuss the draft work plan for the upcoming treatability studies. On-site pilot trials of alternative sediment treatment technologies is scheduled for this fall.

#### MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next community Forum meeting will be held on Tuesday March 28th at 6:00 pm at the Greater New Bedford Vocational Technical School cafeteria. As noted above, at 7:00 pm this Forum meeting will switch to a discussion of the "Explanation of Significant Differences" document concerning hot spot sediment storage.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

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### Progress Report for March 2, 1995

#### DREDGING

Dredging of the Acushnet River "hot spot" sediments and associated dredging-related activity restarted on February 21. We are happy to report that dredging in Areas F and G, the most highly contaminated hot spot areas, has been completed (pending confirmatory sampling results). Dredging is now underway in Area E. To date, approximately 53% (by area) of these highly contaminated sediments have been dredged.

#### INTERIM STORAGE OF DREDGED SEDIMENTS

Due to the need to evaluate treatment technologies other than incineration for the dredged hot spot sediments, these sediments will need to be stored until a final treatment technology is actually implemented. The "road" to final treatment will include on-site treatability studies, formal decision making, engineering redesign, and a new procurement process for selection of a treatment vendor. This process, including the actual treatment itself, is estimated to take four to five years. Since this need for interim storage is a change from the original cleanup plan, EPA is required to publish and solicit comments on a "Explanation of Significant Difference" (or ESD) document. This document explains the changed condition, describes new environmental regulations which come into play, and details the measures that EPA will undertake to comply with these new regulations.

This ESD will be discussed at the next community Forum meeting on March 28, 1995, and EPA will accept written comments until April 27, 1995. The ESD will also be available for review at the New Bedford Public Library at 613 Pleasant Street.

#### AIR MONITORING

Air monitoring samples for airborne PCBs are collected from six locations around the dredging area on each day in which dredging occurs. These samples are collected over an 8-hour period during which the dredging and dredging-related activities take place. These levels are reported as nanograms per cubic meter ( $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ); a nanogram is one-billionth of a gram. It should be noted that the levels reported here are preliminary until a final laboratory report is received:

Tue 2/21/95: average of  $10 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $46 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Wed 2/22/95: average of  $12 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $42 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Th 2/23/95: average of  $103 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $380 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;

Collection of air samples around the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) at the end of Sawyer Street occurs at least twice weekly during normal operations. These air samples are collected over a 24-hour period, usually from noon to noon.

Feb 13-14: average of 6 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 15 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Feb 15-16: average of 19 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 55 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Feb 20-21: average of 42 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 118 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Feb 22-23: average of 25 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 79 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;

#### WATER TREATMENT PLANT

During dredge shutdown days, the treatment plant has been recirculating water to prevent pipes from freezing. Since the dredging activities restarted, the treatment plant has been in operation.

#### TREATABILITY STUDIES

A meeting with the Forum treatability subcommittee was held on March 2 to discuss the draft work plan for the upcoming treatability studies. The current long range schedule calls for on-site pilot trials of alternative sediment treatment technologies this fall.

#### MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next community Forum meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 28th at 7:00 pm at the Greater New Bedford Vocational Technical School. As noted above, this Forum meeting will include a discussion of the Explanation of Significant Differences document concerning hot spot sediment storage.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

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### Progress Report for February 16, 1995

#### DREDGING

Since February 6th, dredging of the Acushnet River "hot spot" sediments has been put on hold due to icing conditions. Dredging is expected to restart the week of February 20th. To date, approximately 52% (by area) of these highly contaminated sediments have been dredged.

#### AIR MONITORING

Air monitoring samples for airborne PCBs are collected from six locations around the dredging area on each day in which dredging occurs. These samples are collected over an 8-hour period during which the dredging and dredging-related activities take place. These levels are reported as nanograms per cubic meter ( $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ); a nanogram is one-billionth of a gram. It should be noted that the levels reported here are preliminary until a final laboratory report is received:

Wed 1/25/95:	average of 13 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 47 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Th 1/26/95:	average of 13 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 49 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Fri 1/27/95:	average of 14 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 44 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Mon 1/30/95:	average of 9 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 35 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Tue 1/31/95:	average of 6 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 11 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Wed 2/1/95:	average of 15 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 31 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Th 2/2/95:	average of 19 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 60 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Fri 2/3/95:	average of 10 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 31 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Mon 2/7/95:	average of 6 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 29 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;

Collection of air samples around the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) at the end of Sawyer Street occurs at least twice weekly during normal operations. These air samples are collected over a 24-hour period, usually from noon to noon.

Jan 25-26:	average of 8 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 25 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Jan 31-Feb 1:	average of 9 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 24 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Feb 2-3:	average of 10 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 17 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Feb 6-7:	average of 2 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 6 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Feb 8-9:	average of 6 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of 12 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;

#### WATER TREATMENT PLANT

During dredge shutdown days, the treatment plant has been recirculating water to prevent pipes from freezing. For the month of January 1995, there were no exceedances of monthly average or daily maximum discharge limitations for PCBs, cadmium, chromium or copper. All daily maximum limits for lead were complied with, except for one exceedance early in the month on January 5th. This one exceedance caused the monthly average discharge level (4.9 parts per billion - ppb) to very slightly exceed the monthly average discharge limit (4.8 ppb).

TREATABILITY STUDIES

The draft work plan for the upcoming pilot treatability studies for the hot spot sediments, developed by EPA's consultant Ebasco Services Inc., was distributed to interested parties at the February 7, 1995 Forum meeting. Other copies of the work plan are being distributed on an as-requested basis. Comments are due to EPA by Friday March 3, 1995.

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next community Forum meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 28th at 6:00 pm at the New Bedford Regional Vocational School. The next meeting of the dredging subcommittee is scheduled for Thursday, March 2 at 6:30 pm at the site trailer.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

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Kristen Conroy, Community Relations, (617) 565-4154

### Progress Report for February 2, 1995

#### DREDGING

Dredging of the Acushnet River "hot spot" sediments and associated dredging-related activity continues. The project team met with the local dredging subcommittee on Monday, January 23rd to discuss overall project status. To date, approximately 50% (by area) of these highly contaminated sediments have been dredged. Dredging in Area F has recently been completed, and dredging in Area G should be completed within a few weeks.

#### AIR MONITORING

Air monitoring samples for airborne PCBs are collected from six locations around the dredging area on each dredging day. These samples are collected over an 8-hour period during which the dredging and dredging-related activities take place. These levels are reported as nanograms per cubic meter ( $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ); a nanogram is one-billionth of a gram. It should be noted that the levels reported here are preliminary until a final laboratory report is received:

Mon 1/16/95: average of  $101 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ; maximum of  $385 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Tue 1/17/95: average of  $88 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $269 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Wed 1/18/95: average of  $21 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $111 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Th 1/19/95: average of  $16 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $76 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Fri 1/20/95: average of  $10 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $52 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Mon 1/23/95: average of  $19 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $70 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Tue 1/24/95: average of  $13 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $28 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;

Collection of air samples around the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) at the end of Sawyer Street occurs at least twice weekly during normal operations. These air samples are collected over a 24-hour period, usually from noon to noon.

Jan 17-18: average of  $69 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $113 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Jan 19-20: average of  $43 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $105 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Jan 23-24: average of  $8 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $15 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;

#### WATER TREATMENT PLANT

The treatment plant continues to treat the seawater which is brought into the CDF along with the dredged sediments. For the month of December, there were no exceedances of monthly average or daily maximum discharge

limitations for PCBs, cadmium, chromium or copper. For lead, however, the monthly average limit was exceeded, and the daily maximum limit was exceeded 7 of 13 times. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has intensified the sampling program and initiated activities to improve the treatment plant's efficiency where possible. These exceedances didn't pose a risk to human health or the environment. The cause of these exceedances is believed to be higher than usual lead levels in the influent sediments and seawater (the treatment plant is not specifically designed to remove the dissolved or soluble forms of lead). Recent lead discharge results have returned to acceptable levels.

#### TREATABILITY STUDIES

The draft work plan for the upcoming pilot treatability studies for the hot spot sediments, developed by EPA's consultant Ebasco Services Inc., will be distributed to interested parties at the February 7, 1995 Forum meeting.

#### MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next community Forum meeting will be held on Tuesday February 7th at 6:00 pm at the Greater New Bedford Vocational High School. The next meeting of the dredging subcommittee is scheduled for Wednesday, February 23rd at 12:30 pm.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

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Kristen Conroy, Community Relations, (617) 565-4154

### Progress Report for January 19, 1995

#### DREDGING

Dredging of the Acushnet River "hot spot" sediments and associated dredging-related activity continues. The project team met with the local dredging subcommittee on Wednesday, January 11th to discuss project status. To date, approximately 48% (by area) of these highly contaminated sediments have been dredged. Maintenance and clearing of the dredge pipeline was accomplished over the last two weeks. Dredging is once again underway in Areas F and G, adjacent to the Aerovox manufacturing facility. Weather permitting, these areas should be completed by early February 1995, and all hot spot dredging should be completed by July 1995.

#### AIR MONITORING

Air monitoring samples for airborne PCBs are collected from six locations around the dredging area on each dredging day. These samples are collected over an 8-hour period during which the dredging and dredging-related activities take place. These levels are reported as nanograms per cubic meter ( $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ); a nanogram is one-billionth of a gram. Recent airborne PCB levels as shown below have been very low. It should be noted that the levels reported here are preliminary until a final laboratory report is received:

Tue 1/3/95: average of 11  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ; maximum of 38  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Wed 1/4/95: average of 14  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ; maximum of 46  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Th 1/5/95: average of 10  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ; maximum of 42  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Fri 1/6/95: average of 8  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ; maximum of 23  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;

Mon 1/9/95: average of 13  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ; maximum of 42  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Tue 1/10/95: average of 2  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ; maximum of 3  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Wed 1/11/95: average of 6  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ; maximum of 25  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Th 1/12/95: average of 28  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ; maximum of 92  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Fri 1/13/95: average of 20  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ; maximum of 39  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$

Collection of air samples around the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) at the end of Sawyer Street occurs at least twice weekly during normal operations. These air samples are collected over a 24-hour period, usually from noon to noon. These CDF levels are also very low:

Jan 3-4: average of 7  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ; maximum of 21  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Jan 5-6: average of 3  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ; maximum of 9  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;

Jan 9-10: average of 10  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ; maximum of 15  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Jan 11-12: average of 21  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ; maximum of 68  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;

WATER TREATMENT PLANT

The treatment plant continues to treat the seawater which is brought into the CDF along with the dredged sediments. During the period that maintenance and clearing of the dredge pipeline took place, the plant recirculated water within the CDF to prevent freezing.

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the dredging subcommittee is scheduled for Monday January 23rd at 12:30 pm. The next community Forum meeting is currently scheduled for Tuesday February 7th at 6:00 pm.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

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### Progress Report for January 5, 1995

#### DREDGING

Dredging of the Acushnet River "hot spot" sediments and associated dredging-related activity continues. To date, approximately 46% (by area) of these highly contaminated sediments have been dredged. Dredging is currently underway in Areas F and G, adjacent to the Aerovox manufacturing facility. Some flushing of the dredging pipeline is scheduled to clear what appears to be a partial blockage in the line. Weather permitting, areas F and G should be completed by early February 1995. It is hoped that a complete winter shutdown can be avoided.

#### AIR MONITORING

Air monitoring samples for airborne PCBs are collected from six locations around the dredging area on each dredging day. These samples are collected over an 8-hour period during which the dredging and dredging-related activities take place. These levels are reported as nanograms per cubic meter ( $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ); a nanogram is one-billionth of a gram. It should be noted that the levels reported here are preliminary until a final laboratory report is received.

Mon 12/12/94: average of  $12 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ; maximum of  $36 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
 Tue 12/13/94: average of  $10 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $46 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
 Wed 12/14/94: average of  $19 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $105 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
 Th 12/15/94: average of  $10 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $33 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
 Fri 12/16/94: average of  $8 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $23 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;

Mon 12/19/94: average of  $14 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $51 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
 Tue 12/20/94: average of  $16 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $60 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
 Wed 12/21/94: average of  $19 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $63 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
 Th 12/22/94: average of  $90 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $257 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
 Fri 12/23/94: average of  $51 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $270 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$

Tue 12/27/94: average of  $32 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $123 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
 Wed 12/28/94: average of  $35 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $81 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
 Thu 12/28/94: average of  $15 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $52 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;

Collection of air samples around the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) at the end of Sawyer Street occurs at least twice weekly during normal operations. These air samples are collected over a 24-hour period, usually from noon to noon.

Dec 12-13: average of  $7 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $12 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
 Dec 15-16: average of  $25 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $70 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;

Dec 21-22: average of  $12 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $19 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
 Dec 22-23: average of  $87 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $155 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
 Dec 28-29: average of  $17 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $31 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;

WATER TREATMENT PLANT

The treatment plant continues to treat the seawater which is brought into the CDF along with the dredged sediments. Approximately 79 million gallons have been treated, tested, and returned to the river to date.

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the dredging subcommittee has been rescheduled for Wednesday January 11, 1995. The next community Forum meeting is currently scheduled for Tuesday February 7th, 1995 at 6:00 pm at the New Bedford Technical Vocational High School. The date stated on the last progress update was incorrect.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

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### Progress Report for December 15, 1994

#### DREDGING

Dredging of the Acushnet River "hot spot" sediments and associated dredging-related activity has continued on week days. To date, approximately 42% (by area) of these highly contaminated sediments have been dredged. Dredging is now underway in Areas F and G, adjacent to the Aerovox manufacturing facility. The project team met with the dredging subcommittee on Wednesday, December 7th to discuss progress to date.

During the move from Area D, an additional background air sample was taken to update the "notice level" calculation for this project. This notice level represents a near-background airborne PCB level which, if exceeded at the dredge area monitoring locations, is used as a trigger to begin investigating possible causes of the elevated levels. This notice level is periodically updated to reflect seasonal variations, and is not a level which represents a human health risk due to airborne PCBs. Based on this most recent background sample, the notice level was reduced from 210 to 152 nanograms per cubic meter.

#### AIR MONITORING

In addition to this background sample, monitoring samples for airborne PCBs were collected from six locations around the dredging area on each dredging day. These samples are collected over an 8-hour period during which the dredging and dredging-related activities take place. These levels are also reported as nanograms per cubic meter ( $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ); a nanogram is one-billionth of a gram. It should be noted that the levels reported here are preliminary until a final laboratory report is received. No samples were above the notice level discussed above.

Mon 11/28/94:	average of 2 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;	(composite sample)
Tue 11/29/94:	average of 18 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of 37 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Wed 11/30/94:	average of 21 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of 60 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Th 12/01/94:	average of 15 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of 55 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Fri 12/02/94:	average of 17 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of 36 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Mon 12/05/94:	average of 23 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of 55 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Tue 12/06/94:	average of 38 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of 146 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Wed 12/07/94:	average of 21 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of 55 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Th 12/08/94:	average of 13 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of 33 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
Fri 12/09/94:	average of 17 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ,	maximum of 46 $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$

Collection of air samples around the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) at the end of Sawyer Street occurs at least twice weekly during normal operations. These air samples are collected over a 24-hour period, usually from noon to noon.

Nov 28-29: average of 10 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 23 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;

Nov 30 - Dec 1: average of 17 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 23 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;

Dec 06-07: average of 23 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 43 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;

#### WATER TREATMENT PLANT

The treatment plant continues to treat the seawater which is brought into the CDF along with the dredged sediments. Approximately 72 million gallons have been treated and returned to the river to date. For the month of November, there were no exceedances of monthly average discharge limitations for PCBs or metals (cadmium, chromium, copper and lead). There was, however, one exceedance of the daily maximum limit for chromium on November 12th.

#### MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the dredging subcommittee is scheduled for Wednesday January 4th, 1995 at 12:30 pm. The next community Forum meeting is scheduled for Tuesday February 2nd, 1995 at 6:00 pm.

#### NEXT PROGRESS REPORT

Please note that there will not be a progress report for December 29, 1995. The next progress report will be issued on January 5, 1995.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

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### Progress Report for December 1, 1994

#### DREDGING

Dredging of the Acushnet River "hot spot" sediments and associated dredging-related activity has continued on all week days (except for Thanksgiving day and the day after). To date, approximately 37% (by area) of the sediments have been dredged. Dredging of Area D has been completed, and the dredge and dredge material pipeline have been relocated back to the more contaminated Areas F and G. Dredging has been underway once again in these new areas since Tuesday November 22, 1994.

#### AIR MONITORING

Air monitoring samples for airborne PCB levels are collected from six locations around the dredging area on each dredging day. These samples are collected over an 8-hour period during which the dredging and dredging-related activities take place. These levels are reported as nanograms per cubic meter ( $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ); a nanogram is one-billionth of a gram.

Mon 11/14/94: average of  $59 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $148 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Tue 11/15/94: average of  $17 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $32 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Wed 11/16/94: average of  $13 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $51 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Th 11/17/94: average of  $15 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $63 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Fri 11/18/94: average of  $14 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $39 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;

Mon 11/21/94: average of  $10 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $35 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Tue 11/22/94: average of  $35 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $128 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Wed 11/23/94: average of  $16 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $29 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;

Collection of air samples around the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) at the end of Sawyer Street occurs at least twice weekly during normal operations. These air samples are collected over a 24-hour period, usually from noon to noon.

Nov 14-15: average of  $4 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $7 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Nov 16-17: average of  $48 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $132 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;

Nov 21-22: average of  $28 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $76 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;  
Nov 22-23: average of  $7 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ , maximum of  $13 \text{ ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;

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**TREATABILITY STUDIES**

A near-final version of the Scope of Work for the treatability studies has been distributed to the treatability study subcommittee for review and comment. This document outlines the contractually-required steps that EPA's contractor for this effort will undertake. The objective of these treatability studies is to perform a series of small-scale test runs of promising treatment technologies, in order to select an alternative to on-site incineration for treatment of the hot spot sediments.

**MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next meeting of the treatability subcommittee is Thursday, December 1st at 4:30 pm. The next meeting of the dredging subcommittee is scheduled for Wednesday, December 7th at 12:30 pm. The next community Forum meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 7, 1995 at 6:00 pm.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

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### Progress Report for November 17, 1994

#### DREDGING

Dredging of the Acushnet River "hot spot" sediments has continued on all week days. To date, approximately 34% (by area) of the sediments have been dredged. Members of the citizen's dredging subcommittee met with the project team on Wednesday November 9th to discuss the dredging status. Currently, a small part of Area D is being redredged where post-dredging sampling results indicated borderline acceptable PCB levels (the acceptable PCB level for this phase of the harbor cleanup is 4,000 parts per million). Otherwise Area D has been completed. The dredge is scheduled to be relocated northward (upriver) to Area G later this week or early next week.

Installation of the newly designed diffuser at the end of the dredging pipeline is now scheduled for after Thanksgiving, due to a need for sufficient water in the holding pond to accomplish this work. Airborne PCB levels have remained low since the old diffuser was last removed and the holding pond cover replaced.

#### WINTER SCHEDULE

Dredging activities are planned to continue as long as weather permits. If the river becomes frozen over, however, as it did last winter, dredging will have to be temporarily discontinued until the ice leaves. Winterization activities are currently underway at the Sawyer Street site to attempt to continue dredging as long as possible.

#### AIR MONITORING

Air monitoring samples for airborne PCB levels are collected from six locations around the dredging area on each dredging day. These samples are collected over an 8-hour duration corresponding to the period of dredging and dredging-related activities. These levels are reported as nanograms per cubic meter (ng/m<sup>3</sup>); a nanogram is one-billionth of a gram.

Mon 10/31/94:	average of 56 ng/m <sup>3</sup> , maximum of 184 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ;
Tue 11/01/94:	average of 31 ng/m <sup>3</sup> , maximum of 76 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ;
Wed 11/02/94:	average of 43 ng/m <sup>3</sup> , maximum of 114 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ;
Thu 11/03/94:	average of 16 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ; maximum of 49 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ;
Fri 11/04/94:	average of 49 ng/m <sup>3</sup> , maximum of 143 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ;
Mon 11/07/94:	average of 33 ng/m <sup>3</sup> , maximum of 97 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ;
Tue 11/08/94:	average of 41 ng/m <sup>3</sup> , maximum of 100 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ;
Wed 11/09/94:	average of 22 ng/m <sup>3</sup> , maximum of 38 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ;
Thu 11/10/94:	average of 20 ng/m <sup>3</sup> , maximum of 57 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ;
Fri 11/11/94:	average of 16 ng/m <sup>3</sup> , maximum of 41 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ;

- more -

Collection of air samples around the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) at the end of Sawyer Street occurs ~~at~~ at least twice weekly. These air samples are collected over a 24-hour period, usually from noon one day until noon the next day.

Oct 31-Nov 1: average of 71 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 207 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Nov 2-3: average of 14 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 24 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Nov 8-9: average of 13 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 21 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Nov 10-11: average of 14 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 20 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next community Forum meeting will be held Monday, November 21st at 6:00 pm at the Greater New Bedford Vocational Technical High School. The next meeting of the dredging subcommittee is scheduled for Wednesday, November 23rd at 12:30 pm.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

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### Progress Report for November 3, 1994

#### DREDGING

Dredging of the Acushnet River "hot spot" sediments has continued approximately 5 hours per day on weekday high tides. To date, approximately 32% (by area) of the sediments have been dredged. Members of the citizen's dredging subcommittee met with the project team on Wednesday October 26 to discuss the dredging status.

Due to renewed clogging problems with the diffuser at the end of the dredge pipeline, the diffuser was removed at 3:30 am Wednesday, October 31st. A new design for this piece of equipment is being developed to minimize future disruptions to the dredging process. This new design is scheduled to be installed next week. The purpose of the original diffuser was to reduce turbulence where the dredge pipeline discharges into the CDF. Although the diffuser was removed, the cover remains over the CDF, minimizing volatilization of PCBs. Dredging and monitoring has proceeded as scheduled.

#### AIR MONITORING

Air monitoring samples for airborne PCB levels are collected from six locations around the dredging area on each dredging day. These samples are collected over an 8-hour duration corresponding to the period of dredging and dredging-related activities. These levels are reported as nanograms per cubic meter (ng/m<sup>3</sup>); a nanogram is one-billionth of a gram.

Mon 10/17/94: average of 12 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 39 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Tue 10/18/94: average of 15 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 52 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Wed 10/19/94: average of 58 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 228 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Thu 10/20/94: average of 25 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 80 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Fri 10/21/94: average of 23 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 60 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;

Mon 10/24/94: average of 32 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 101 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Tue 10/25/94: average of 77 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 218 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Wed 10/26/94: average of 17 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 41 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Thu 10/27/94: average of 26 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 77 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;

Collection of air samples around the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) at the end of Sawyer Street occurs at least twice weekly. These air samples are collected over a 24-hour period, usually from noon one day until noon the next day.

Oct 17-18: average of 38 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 60 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Oct 19-20: average of 104 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 335 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;

Oct 25-26: average of 38 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 94 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Oct 27-28: average of 50 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 75 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;

#### WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

The wastewater treatment plant continues to operate at maximum capacity. To date, more than 56.3 million gallons of dredged water has been treated to remove PCBs, and returned to the Acushnet River. For September and October 1994, all monthly average and daily maximum limitations on discharge concentrations were complied with, with one minor daily exception for copper on September 4 (16 parts per billion discharged versus a limit of 15 parts per billion).

#### MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the dredging subcommittee is scheduled for Wednesday November 9 at 12:30 pm. The next meeting of the treatability study subcommittee is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday November 16 at 12:30 pm. The next community Forum meeting is currently scheduled for Monday November 21 at 6:00 pm at the Greater New Bedford Vocational Technical High School.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

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### Progress Report for October 20, 1994

#### DREDGING

The bearing on the pump which failed on Wednesday, Oct. 5 has been repaired. Dredging has continued approximately 5 hours per day on weekdays since Tuesday, Oct. 11, except for Thursday, Oct. 20 when the diffuser was being reconnected (see below). Dredging is scheduled to continue every weekday during high tide. Members of the citizen's dredging subcommittee met with the project team on Wednesday, Oct. 12 to discuss the current dredging status. Dredging is being conducted to remove highly contaminated "hot spot" sediments from the Acushnet River.

#### DIFFUSER RECONNECTED

A large rock found at a 90 degree "elbow" in the diffuser caused a block in the diffuser. The diffuser, attached to the end of the dredging pipeline, was disconnected, "unblocked", and reconnected Thursday, Oct. 20, 1994. The cover over cell #1 was temporarily removed in the area of the diffuser to allow for this reconnection, and 24-hour air monitoring was performed to monitor any resulting emissions.

#### REMOVAL OF SOLIDS FROM CELL #3 OF THE CONFINED DISPOSAL FACILITY

The time needed to repair the dredge pump created an opportunity to clean the collected sediments from cell #3. This cell is used to "settle out" solid particles as part of the treatment process for the water that is brought in along with the sediments from the dredge. Extra 24-hour air monitoring from the six on-site sampling stations was performed during the cleaning time to monitor any emissions that might have resulted. Results from this monitoring indicate that airborne PCB concentrations on-site during this period were in the same range as during previous operations (see AIR MONITORING below).

#### AIR MONITORING

Air monitoring samples for airborne PCB levels are collected from six locations around the Hot Spots on each dredging day. These samples are collected over an 8-hour duration corresponding to the period of dredging and dredging-related activities. These levels are reported as nanograms per cubic meter (ng/m<sup>3</sup>); a nanogram is one-billionth of a gram.

Mon. 10/3/94: average of 22 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 74 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Tue. 10/4/94: average of 14 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 49 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Wed. 10/5/94: average of 25 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 97 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Tue. 10/11/94: average of 12 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 49 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Wed. 10/12/94: average of 15 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 69 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Th. 10/13/94: average of 45 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 115 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Fri. 10/14/94: average of 24 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 63 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;

Collection of air samples around the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) occurs at least twice weekly. These air samples are collected over a 24-hour period, usually from noon one day until noon the next day.

Oct. 3-4: average of 25 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 41 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Oct. 5-6: average of 18 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 32 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Oct. 6-7: average of 43 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 79 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Oct. 7-8: average of 31 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 77 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Oct. 11-12: average of 30 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 43 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Oct. 13-14: average of 24 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 57 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;

#### TREATABILITY STUDIES

Representatives of the US EPA and MA DEP met with the citizen's treatability study subcommittee on Wednesday, Oct. 19th to discuss the current status of EPA's treatability study project. The goal of this project is to identify an acceptable treatment process for the hot spot sediments. The subcommittee reviewed and gave their general approval of a "scope of work" document which will be used as the first step in EPA's contracting process to perform this treatability study.

#### MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the dredging subcommittee is scheduled for Wednesday October 26.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

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### Progress Report for October 6, 1994

The next Progress Report will be issued on October 20.

#### DREDGING

Dredging to remove Hot Spot sediment from the Acushnet River occurred on each weekday between September 22 and Wednesday, October 5. Dredging was interrupted on October 5 because of a mechanical problem with the dredge pump. Dredging is planned to resume on Tuesday, October 11. Dredging is scheduled to continue on each subsequent weekday high tide.

#### MECHANICAL PROBLEM WITH DREDGE PUMP

On Tuesday, October 5, a bearing in the dredge pump failed and dredging had to be stopped after about 1.5 hours of operation. The pump pushes the water from the dredge through 5,500 feet of dredge pipeline to the CDF at Sawyer Street. Valves at each end of the dredge pipeline were closed so that the dredged material within the pipeline could not leak back into the Acushnet River. The dredge was moved to the dredge support area on the shoreline behind the Aerovox Company, and a crane was brought in to remove the pump from the dredge. The pump was cleaned to remove contamination and a new bearing installed. It is expected that the pump will be put back into the dredge and the dredge re-positioned in the Acushnet River in time to resume dredging on Tuesday, October 11.

#### AIR MONITORING

Air monitoring samples are collected from six locations around the Hot Spots on each dredging day. These samples are collected over an 8-hour duration corresponding to the period of dredging and dredging related activities.

Sept. 19, Mon:	6.0 hrs dredging, ave. of	26 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ;
Sept. 20, Tue:	6.0 hrs dredging, ave. of	26 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ;
Sept. 21, Wed:	6.0 hrs dredging, ave. of	100 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ;
Sept. 22, Thu:	5.5 hrs dredging, ave. of	20 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ;
Sept. 23, Fri:	4.5 hrs dredging, ave. of	09 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ;
Sept. 26, Mon:	5.0 hrs dredging, ave. of	06 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ;
Sept. 27, Tue:	6.0 hrs dredging, ave. of	10 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ;
Sept. 28, Wed:	6.0 hrs dredging, ave. of	66 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ;
Sept. 29, Thu:	5.5 hrs dredging, ave. of	25 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ; and
Sept. 30, Fri:	6.0 hrs dredging, ave. of	32 ng/m <sup>3</sup> .

Collection of air samples around the CDF occurs twice weekly. These air samples were collected overnight, from noon one day to noon the next day.

Sept. 19-20:	average 30 ng/m <sup>3</sup> , maximum of	46 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ;
Sept. 21-22:	average 73 ng/m <sup>3</sup> , maximum of	156 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ;
Sept. 27-28:	average 65 ng/m <sup>3</sup> , maximum of	102 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ; and
Sept. 29-30:	average 21 ng/m <sup>3</sup> , maximum of	50 ng/m <sup>3</sup> .

#### DIFFUSER TEMPORARILY DISCONNECTED

In the last progress report it was noted that a partial blockage had occurred at the diffuser on Sept. 15, requiring that the diffuser be disconnected from the dredge pipeline. A new elbow for the connection between the dredge pipeline and the diffuser has been ordered. The new elbow is designed to permit a periodic cleaning of the diffuser so that a similar blockage should not occur in the future. Because this new elbow will prevent the buildup of dredged material around the diffuser, it will reduce the need to move the diffuser within the CDF cell. In the past, the floating cover on the CDF has been partially pulled-back in order to move the diffuser. The new elbow should reduce or eliminate this reason for removing the floating cover, which will help to keep the emissions of PCBs from the CDF to a minimum.

#### WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

The wastewater treatment plant continues to operate at maximum capacity. As of October 5, 44.2 million gallons of dredged water has been treated to remove PCBs, and returned to the Acushnet River.

#### MONITORING OF IMPACTS TO THE HARBOR

Collection of river water samples to monitor biological toxicity and PCB migration at the Coggeshall Street Bridge has not shown any significant change from conditions before dredging began.

#### NEW PROJECT MANAGER STARTS FOR EPA

On Monday, October 3, David Dickerson started as Remedial Project Manager for the site. Dave is an environmental engineer who has worked in EPA's Boston office for 10 years. He has been a Remedial Project Manager on Superfund sites in Massachusetts for 7 years. This past year Dave was working with EPA's water division developing management plans for ocean disposal of dredge spoils. Gayle Garman will continue working on the project with Dave until the end of October, when she will begin an assignment with the Hazardous Materials Division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in Seattle, Washington.

#### MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the dredging subcommittee is scheduled for Wed., October 12. The chairman of the dredging subcommittee receives daily progress reports, and air monitoring data as it becomes available.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

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### Progress Report for September 22, 1994

The next Progress Report will be issued on October 6.

#### DREDGING

Dredging to remove Hot Spot sediment from the Acushnet River has occurred during high tide on each workday since the last Progress Report was issued on September 8. Dredging is scheduled to continue on each weekday high tide.

As of September 21, approximately 32% (3377 dry tons) of the Hot Spot sediment has been dredged from the Acushnet River, pumped a mile south through the dredge pipeline, and contained in the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) at the end of Sawyer Street.

The dredging schedule in the project design estimated dredging would be completed in four months. Dredging began on April 27th, and we are only about 1/3 complete. Dredging is proceeding at maximum rates currently, and air levels of PCBs have remained low. Dredging can not proceed any faster than current rates, because the on-site wastewater treatment plant is operating at capacity, around the clock.

#### AIR MONITORING

Air monitoring samples are collected from six locations around the Hot Spots on each dredging day. These samples are collected over an 8-hour duration corresponding to the period of dredging and dredging related activities.

Sept. 05, Mon: no dredging, labor day holiday;  
Sept. 06, Tue: 5.0 hrs dredging, ave. of 31 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Sept. 07, Wed: 6.0 hrs dredging, ave. of 47 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Sept. 08, Thu: 5.0 hrs dredging, ave. of 51 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Sept. 09, Fri: 5.0 hrs dredging, ave. of 101 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
  
Sept. 12, Mon: 5.0 hrs dredging, ave. of 40 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Sept. 13, Tue: 6.0 hrs dredging, ave. of 64 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Sept. 14, Wed: 6.0 hrs dredging, ave. of 26 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Sept. 15, Thu: 6.0 hrs dredging, ave. of 37 ng/m<sup>3</sup>; and  
Sept. 16, Fri: 4.5 hrs dredging, ave. of 49 ng/m<sup>3</sup>.

Collection of air samples around the Confined Disposal Facility occurs twice weekly. These air samples were collected overnight, from noon one day to noon the next day.

Sept. 06-07: average 52 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 104 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;  
Sept. 13-14: average 34 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 80 ng/m<sup>3</sup>; and  
Sept. 15-16: average 143 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 326 ng/m<sup>3</sup>.

#### DIFFUSER TEMPORARILY DISCONNECTED

On Sept 15, The Corps of Engineers noted that the flow of material through the dredge pipeline was less than usual, even though the dredge and pumps were operating as usual. After an investigation of possible causes, it was determined that a partial blockage was present at the elbow connecting the dredge pipeline to the diffuser.

The diffuser is connected to the end of the pipeline where the dredged water discharges into the CDF. The purpose of the diffuser is to reduce the turbulence of the dredged water as it is discharged. The reduced water turbulence, in turn, leads to a reduced rate of transfer of PCBs from water in the CDF into the air (volatization). After the project began, the floating cover on the CDF was added which totally covers the cell of the CDF into which the dredged material is discharged. Because the floating cover prevents the transfer of the PCBs from the CDF into the overlying air, the diffuser no longer makes a big difference in reducing transfer of PCBs into the air.

Therefore, in order to maintain current dredging rates, the floating CDF cover was partially removed during the morning of Sept. 16 to disconnect the diffuser from the dredge pipeline. This is why the air monitoring results around the CDF were higher on Sept. 16. The CDF cover was put back in place before dredging resumed.

#### WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

The wastewater treatment plant continues to operate at maximum capacity. As of Sept. 21, 37.5 million gallons of dredged water has been treated to remove PCBs, and returned to the Acushnet River.

#### MONITORING OF IMPACTS TO THE HARBOR

Collection of river water samples to monitor biological toxicity and PCB migration at the Coggeshall Street Bridge has not shown any significant change from conditions before dredging began.

#### MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the dredging subcommittee is scheduled for Wed., Sept. 28. The chairman of the dredging subcommittee receives daily progress reports, and air monitoring data as it becomes available.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

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### Progress Report for August 25, 1994

The next Progress Report will be issued on September 8.

#### DREDGING

Dredging to remove "Hot Spot" sediment from the Acushnet River proceeded August 8-12, August 15-17, and August 22-24.

Dredging did not occur on Thursday, August 18, because of stormy weather conditions or Friday, August 19, in order to move the dredge and support equipment to the beginning of a new dredging row.

As of August 24, approximately 20% of the Hot Spot sediment had been dredged from the Acushnet River, pumped a mile south through the dredge pipeline, and contained in the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) at the end of Sawyer Street.

#### AIR MONITORING

Air monitoring samples are collected from six locations around the Hot Spots on each dredging day. These samples are collected over an 8-hour duration corresponding to dredging and dredging related activities. The samplers pump large amounts of air through a special filter which collects PCBs. The filter is then set to a laboratory for chemical analysis.

Aug. 08, Mon:	3.5 hrs dredging, ave. of 42 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ;
Aug. 09, Tue:	5.5 hrs dredging, ave. of 75 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ;
Aug. 10, Wed:	4.0 hrs dredging, ave. of 76 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ;
Aug. 11, Thu:	3.0 hrs dredging, no samples collected
Aug. 12, Fri:	4.5 hrs dredging, ave. of 68 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ;
Aug. 15, Mon:	4.0 hrs dredging, ave. of 57 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ;
Aug. 16, Tue:	5.0 hrs dredging, ave. of 58 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ;
Aug. 17, Wed:	4.0 hrs dredging, ave. of 91 ng/m <sup>3</sup> ;
Aug. 18, Thu:	stormy weather, no dredging, no sample;
Aug. 19, Fri:	dredge moved, ave. 33 ng/m <sup>3</sup> .

On August 11 the timers that control the air samplers were mistakenly set for 7:30 pm rather than 7:30 am. As soon as the error was noticed, about noon, dredging activities stopped. The contractor then proposed a new procedure which would check on the air samplers within the first hour of expected operation. Dredging resumed on the next day's high tide, with the new procedure in place.

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Collection of air samples around the CDF occurs twice weekly. These samples are collected over a 24 hour duration. Preliminary data reports indicated:

- a.) Tue, Aug. 9: ave. 140 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum 475 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;
- b.) Thu, Aug. 11: ave. 33 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 47 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;
- c.) Wed. Aug. 17: ave. 23 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 117 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;
- d.) Fri. Aug. 19: ave. 52 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, maximum of 108 ng/m<sup>3</sup>.

#### WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

The wastewater treatment plant resumed operations on August 8 when dredging resumed, and has run continuously since. As of August 24, 25.4 million gallons of dredged River water has been treated.

#### MONITORING OF IMPACTS TO THE HARBOR

Collection of River water samples at the Coggeshall Street Bridge indicates that the migration of PCBs south of the bridge has not increased, even though the dredge is now operating 800 feet closer to the bridge. River water samples are collected least once every third dredging day, to monitor PCB migration and biological toxicity. There has not been any significant difference between measurements taken during dredging and measurements taken before dredging began.

#### MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the dredging subcommittee is scheduled for August 31. The chairman of the dredging subcommittee receives daily progress reports, including air monitoring data, as it becomes available to EPA.

The next meeting of the treatability studies subcommittee is scheduled for September 7. This subcommittee of the New Bedford Harbor Community Forum is working with EPA and MA DEP to scope the objectives and performance criteria for the treatability studies.



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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

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### Progress Report for August 11, 1994

The next Progress Report will be issued on August 25.

In consultation with the Community Forum, EPA determined that reports on dredging and air monitoring have become routine. On that basis, it was decided that issuing a report every other week should be tried. Also, this report uses a new format. We would be pleased to receive any comments you may have on the new schedule or on the new format.

#### DREDGING

Dredging resumed on Monday, August 8, and has proceeded on high tides through Thursday, August 11. Dredging is scheduled on the daylight high tide each weekday during August.

As of August 10, approximately 15% of the Hot Spot sediment has been dredged from the Acushnet River, pumped a mile south through the dredge pipeline, and contained in the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) at the end of Sawyer Street.

Dredging of the Hot Spot areas removes the greatest source of spreading PCB contamination in the Site. Without dredging, the currents which change with each day's tides would continue to move the PCBs around to other areas of the Acushnet River, New Bedford Harbor, and eventually into Buzzards Bay.

Measurements of PCB migration made at the New Bedford hurricane barrier before dredging began indicated an average of 100 lbs, or about 10 gallons, of PCBs migrate from New Bedford Harbor into Buzzards Bay each year.

#### AIR MONITORING

Air monitoring samples are collected from around the Hot Spots on each dredging day. However, none of the data from this week has been reported to EPA at the time of this report. The chairman of the dredging subcommittee receives daily progress reports, including air monitoring data, as it becomes available to EPA.

The analysis of the air samples is a complicated chemical process which requires a minimum 48 hours of laboratory time. Additional time is needed to ship the air samples to the laboratory. Finally, the data is put into a letter report documenting the collection and analysis process, and reported to EPA.

Collection of air samples on the Sawyer Street property, around the Confined Disposal Facility, occurs twice weekly. These samples are collected over a 24 hour duration. Preliminary data reports indicate:

- a.) Wed., Aug 3: average 75 ng/m<sup>3</sup> for six monitors, maximum of 463 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;
- b.) Fri., Aug 5: average 35 ng/m<sup>3</sup> for six monitors, maximum of 212 ng/m<sup>3</sup>.

#### WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

The wastewater treatment plant resumed operations on August 8. The plant is a special design to treat the contaminated water that is dredged from the river along with the sediment. Treated water is tested for PCBs and metals before it can be discharged back into the Acushnet River.

#### MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the dredging subcommittee is scheduled for August 17.

The New Bedford Harbor Community Forum met on August 9, to discuss and review a draft agreement setting forth the process and procedures to be followed in selection of a technology to treat the Hot Spot sediments as an alternative to incineration. This agreement is expected to be finalized and signed by all parties of the Forum in the near future. A subgroup of the Community Forum will be working with EPA and Massachusetts DEP to develop criteria for testing new technologies that could be used to treat the Hot Spot sediments. On July 12, 1994, EPA announced that it had cancelled the incineration portion of the contract in order to test other treatment technologies in conjunction with the Community Forum.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

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### Progress Report for August 4, 1994

1.) No dredging operations to remove Hot Spot sediments occurred during the past week because the transfer of funds from EPA to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) to pay for air monitoring around the dredging area was delayed. Dredging does not proceed if air samples to monitor PCB levels around the dredging area can not be collected. The necessary additional funds will be available at the end of this week.

2.) Dredging is scheduled on morning high tides Monday through Friday of next week, August 8-12.

On July 20-22, dredging began in a new Hot Spot area about 800 ft south of where the dredge was working in June. The Hot Spots are areas where PCB levels in sediment are greater than 4,000 parts per million (ppm). By moving the dredge to a less contaminated Hot Spot area, dredging to remove the PCBs in the sediment can continue during the hot summer months, while keeping PCB levels in air as low as possible. The PCBs move from the sediment and water into the air more easily when the air is hot.

3.) During July, dredging proceeded on 3 out of 20 potential dredging days. However, on 13 potential dredging days, other activities occurred: 5 days for the investigation and repair of a tear in the floating cover on Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) Cell #1, 5 days to complete activities related to moving the dredge to the new location, 2 days for repairs to the pumps in CDF Cell #3, and 1 day to move the diffuser within the CDF.

4.) No air monitoring samples have been collected at the six samplers located around the Hot Spots since July 22.

Air monitoring measures the PCBs in the air in units of nanograms per cubic meter (ng/m<sup>3</sup>). It takes about 50 billion nanograms to make one pound. A cubic meter is about the same volume as a cubic yard.

EPA estimates that a total of 120 tons (240,000 pounds) of PCBs are found in the Hot Spot sediments.

5.) Collection of air samples on the Sawyer Street property, around the CDF, occurs twice weekly. The Sawyer Street location is more than one mile south of the Hot Spots. These samples are collected over a 24 hour duration. Preliminary data reports indicate:

- a.) Mon, July 25: average 146 ng/m<sup>3</sup> for six monitors,  
maximum of 706 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;
- b.) Wed, July 27: average 62 ng/m<sup>3</sup> for six monitors,  
maximum of 379 ng/m<sup>3</sup>.

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6.) The floating cover on the largest CDF Cell #1, was partially removed on Monday, July 25, to check on the sediment levels in the CDF and to move the diffuser within the CDF. Even though the floating cover was partially removed for several hours, PCB levels in air remained below the shut -down level of 1000 ng/m<sup>3</sup>. Air samples collected in nearby areas when the cover was partially removed, did not show any increase in PCB levels over measurements taken on other days.

7.) The wastewater treatment plant will resume operations next week, to treat the contaminated water that is dredged from the river along with the sediment. Treated water is tested for PCBs and metals before it can be discharged back into the Acushnet River.

8.) The chairman of the subcommittee receives daily progress reports, including preliminary air monitoring data.

9.) The New Bedford Harbor Forum continues to meet regarding the selection of a technology to treat the Hot Spot sediments. The next meeting of the Forum is scheduled for Tuesday, August 9, at 6:00, at the New Bedford Vocational Technical High School. The public is encouraged to attend. Meetings are recorded and broadcast on local cable television channels in New Bedford, Fairhaven, and Acushnet.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

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### Progress Report for July 28, 1994

1.) Dredging of Hot Spot sediments to remove PCB contamination proceeded on high tides of Wed, July 20 through Fri, July 22. Dredging is in a new less contaminated Hot Spot location about 800 ft south of where the dredge was working in June. The new location lets dredging continue during the hot summer months, while keeping PCB levels in air as low as possible. The PCBs move from the sediment and water into the air more easily when the air is hot.

2.) No dredging was scheduled on Mon, July 25, in order to partially remove the floating cover on the confined disposal facility (CDF) and check the diffuser. The diffuser controls the flow of water and sediment from the dredge pipeline into the CDF.

No dredging occurred on Tue, July 26 or Wed, July 27 because of a malfunction in pumps that move water between the treatment plant and the CDF. The malfunctioning pumps have been replaced.

3.) Dredging is scheduled on afternoon high tides Monday through Friday of next week, August 1-5.

4.) Hot Spot air monitoring samples are collected on high tides at the six samplers located around the Hot Spots. Background measurements show the levels of PCBs in air that are found at the site because of the PCB contamination in the Harbor. Air monitoring measures the PCBs in the air in units of nanograms per cubic meter (ng/m<sup>3</sup>).

- a.) July 15, Fri: rainstorm, background aver. of 23 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;
- b.) July 18, Mon: dredging preparations, aver. of 36 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;
- c.) July 19, Tue: dredging preparations, aver. of 107 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;
- d.) July 20, Wed: 4.0 hrs dredging, ave. of 149 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;
- e.) July 21, Thu: 3.5 hrs dredging, ave. of 113 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;
- f.) July 22, Fri: 4.0 hrs dredging, ave. of 109 ng/m<sup>3</sup>.

The average of the four most recent background measurements is used to calculate the Notice Level for the Hot Spots. Including the data from July 15 **reduced** the Notice Level from 240 to 210 ng/m<sup>3</sup>. None of the reported Hot Spot samples exceeded the new Notice Level.

5.) Collection of air samples on the Sawyer Street property, around the Confined Disposal Facility, occurs twice weekly. The Sawyer Street location is more than one mile south of the Hot Spots. These samples are collected over a 24 hour duration. Preliminary data reports indicated:

- a.) Tue, July 19: average 184 ng/m<sup>3</sup> for six monitors, maximum of 1032 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;
- b.) Thu, July 17: average 52 ng/m<sup>3</sup> for six monitors, maximum of 340 ng/m<sup>3</sup>.

The maximum value on July 19 exceeds the shut-down level for the site. No dredging has occurred since preliminary data reporting this value were received on July 25. This reading is probably higher than usual because of unusual procedures at the CDF during the time the sample was collected, which exposed some of the collected sediment to the air. Corrective actions have been taken to ensure that this sediment remains covered in the future.

6.) Because dredging has occurred on only three days since June 29, a relatively small volume of water was dredged from the river in July. As a result, only limited operation of the waste water treatment plant has been needed.

7.) The dredging subcommittee meeting on July 27 was cancelled. The chairman of the subcommittee receives daily progress reports, including preliminary air monitoring data. The next meeting of the subcommittee is scheduled for August 3.

8.) The New Bedford Harbor Forum continues to meet regarding the selection of a technology to treat the Hot Spot sediments. The next meeting of the Forum is scheduled for August 9, at 6:00, at the New Bedford Vocational Technical High School. The public is encouraged to attend. Meetings are recorded and broadcast on local cable television channels in New Bedford, Fairhaven, and Acushnet.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

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### Progress Report for July 21, 1994

1.) Dredging of Hot Spot sediments resumed on the afternoon high tide of July 20. Of the 60 scheduled dredging days so far, actual dredging to remove contaminated sediment has occurred on 34 days, other dredging related activities occurred on 15 days, and there have been 11 days when no dredging related activities occurred. Dredging removes the greatest source of PCB contamination in New Bedford Harbor.

There have been three occasions when air monitoring at the CDF indicated PCB levels in excess of 1000 ng/m<sup>3</sup>. In all three cases the high reading was at Sampler #3 on the north side of the CDF, and none of the other five locations on the Sawyer Street property exceeded 300. Samplers located in nearby areas of New Bedford did not have increased measurements. Two days when levels greater than 1000 ng/m<sup>3</sup> were found at Sampler #3 were the result of the floating cover in the CDF having a tear and one day was probably from an unusually severe rainstorm with strong winds from the northeast.

2.) Dredging is scheduled on morning high tides Tuesday through Friday of next week, July 26-29. We do not expect to dredge on Monday, July 25. On Monday, instead of dredging, we will move the diffuser in the CDF and measure the depth of sediment in the CDF.

3.) On July 18, the dredge was moved to a new location within the Hot Spots, about 800 ft south of the previous location. The dredge pipeline has been shortened, the oil containment booms have been moved to the new location, and additional survey markers put into place to prepare for dredging in the new area. Air monitoring samples were collected while these preparations were underway.

The new dredging area is a Hot Spot area, but it is less contaminated than the Hot Spot area where the dredge was working in June. By moving the dredge to a less contaminated area, dredging to remove the contaminated sediments can continue during the hot summer months, while keeping PCB levels in air as low as possible.

4.) Air monitoring data was collected at the six samplers located around the Hot Spots during the preparations to move the dredge to the new location. These samples were collected over an 8-hr duration corresponding to high tides, because only during times of high tide is there sufficient water depth to get boats into the Hot Spots.

- a.) July 13, Wed: dredging preparations, ave of 88 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;
- b.) July 14, Thu: dredging preparations, ave of 54 ng/m<sup>3</sup>
- c.) July 15, Fri: no dredging preparations due to weather

5.) Collection of air samples on the Sawyer Street property, around the Confined Disposal Facility, occurs twice weekly. The Sawyer Street location is more than one mile south of the Hot Spots. These samples were collected over a 24 hour duration.

- a.) Tue, July 12: average 161 ng/m<sup>3</sup> for six monitors, maximum of 727 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;
- b.) Thu, July 14: average 76 ng/m<sup>3</sup> for six monitors, maximum of 149 ng/m<sup>3</sup>.

Both maximum on-site readings occurred at the monitor on the north side of the CDF, next to Sparky's Cove. The highest measurement from Sawyer Street is usually at this monitor, probably because this monitor is closest to the Cove which contains large mudflats contaminated with PCBs.

6.) The fence which separates Riverside Park on Coffin Avenue from the north side of Sparky's Cove was replaced on July 16. Additional repairs were made where the fence runs along Coffin Avenue. The fence is to prevent people from walking along the shoreline and coming into contact with the contaminated sediments. New warning signs in English, Portuguese, and Spanish also were put in place.

7.) Because there wasn't any dredging last week, the water treatment plant did not operate and there wasn't any discharge of water from the treatment plant to the Acushnet River.

8.) Because no dredging took place between July 11-15, the dredging subcommittee did not meet this week. EPA provides the chairman of the subcommittee with daily reports, including preliminary air monitoring data. The next meeting of the subcommittee is scheduled for July 27.

9.) The New Bedford Harbor Forum continues to meet regarding the selection of a technology to treat the Hot Spot sediments. The next meeting of the Forum is scheduled for August 9, at 6:00, at the New Bedford Vocational Technical High School. The public is encouraged to attend. Meetings are recorded and broadcast on local cable television channels in New Bedford, Fairhaven, and Acushnet.



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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

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### Progress Report for July 14, 1994

1.) No dredging of Hot Spot sediments occurred last week. Dredging removes the greatest source of PCB contamination in New Bedford Harbor. Dredging is scheduled on afternoon high tides Tuesday through Friday of next week, July 19-22.

On July 14, the dredge will be moved to a new Hot Spot location, about 800 ft south of the present dredge location. The new dredging area is less contaminated than the area where the dredge has been working. The levels of PCBs in air have been gradually increasing since dredging began in late April, because the PCBs move into the air more easily when the air is hot. The air samples collected when there isn't any dredging underway (background samples) show that this movement of PCBs into the air occurs continuously, even when there isn't any dredging. By moving the dredge to a less contaminated area, dredging to remove the contaminated sediments can continue during the hot summer months, while keeping PCB levels in air as low as possible.

The current dredging area is more than one mile north of Sawyer Street, where the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) is located. To move the dredge to the new location the dredge pipeline will have to be shortened and additional survey markers put into place before dredging can begin at the new location. Air monitoring samples will be collected while these preparations are underway.

2.) Dredging operations were suspended on Monday, July 11, after preliminary data for July 5-6 was received which indicated a measurement of 1650 ng/m<sup>3</sup> at Sampler #3, on Sawyer Street next to the CDF. No dredging took place on July 6, when the sample was collected. However during the week of July 5-8, preparations were underway to open the CDF cover to check the depth of sediment within the CDF. During these preparations, a tear in the cover was discovered late in the day on July 6 under some water which had pooled on top of the cover; that tear was repaired on July 8. The high readings that measured 1650 ng/m<sup>3</sup> and 1150 ng/m<sup>3</sup> at Sampler #3 were due to the tear in the cover.

3.) The average PCB level from the other air samplers located on Sawyer Street was 26 ng/m<sup>3</sup> on July 6 and 60 ng/m<sup>3</sup> on July 8. The average from the samplers located in the neighborhoods near Sawyer Street was 21 ng/m<sup>3</sup> on July 6, and 37 ng/m<sup>3</sup> on July 8. These levels are no greater than levels measured previously, which indicates that the increased level at Sampler #3, on the north side of the CDF, did not affect any offsite areas.

4.) NO air samples were collected from around the Hot Spots last week, because there wasn't any dredging or associated activities.

5.) On July 12, EPA instructed the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to cancel the incineration portion of the contract for the Hot Spots. The incineration portion of the contract is being cancelled to save public funds. Funds were being spent to keep the incinerator waiting for use at the Site. The agencies will no longer pay standby costs while alternative treatment technologies continue to be reviewed. The agencies will continue to work with the Community Forum to develop a long term solution for New Bedford. The cancellation of incineration has no relationship to the contractor's performance. Perland Environmental Technologies, Inc., has consistently and capably completed all of its duties to date.

6.) Because no dredging will occur between July 11-15, the dredging subcommittee will not meet next week. EPA will continue to provide the chairman of the subcommittee with daily reports, including preliminary air monitoring data. The next meeting of the subcommittee is scheduled for July 27.

7.) The New Bedford Harbor Forum continues to meet regarding the selection of a technology to treat the Hot Spot sediments. The next meeting of the Forum is scheduled for August 9, at 6:00, at the New Bedford Vocational Technical High School. The public is encouraged to attend. Meetings are recorded and broadcast on local cable television channels in New Bedford, Fairhaven, and Acushnet.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

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### Progress Report for July 7, 1994

1.) There has been no dredging of Hot Spot sediments since June 30. Dredging removes the principal source of PCB contamination in New Bedford Harbor. Dredging is scheduled on afternoon high tides Monday through Friday of next week, July 11-15.

2.) Dredging did not occur on Friday, July 1, because sampling of effluent from the wastewater treatment plant indicated lead levels in excess of performance standards. In accordance with site procedures, discharge of treated water was suspended until testing could demonstrate compliance with the standards. Therefore, treated water was recycled to the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF). Because water could not be removed from the CDF for treatment and discharge, there was not enough space in the CDF to accept a day's worth of dredging production.

Each day of dredging produces approximately 500,000 gallons of dredged water requiring treatment. So far, 16 million gallons of water has been treated to remove suspended sediment and PCBs. The treated water is tested and discharged to the Acushnet River, just north of Sawyer Street.

Samples of treated water collected on July 5 and 6 indicate the wastewater treatment plant has resumed meeting lead performance standards. However, because of ongoing work to remove ponded water and airborne silt from the CDF cover, neither discharge of water from the treatment plant nor dredging have resumed.

3.) Air monitoring data from the previous week was reviewed. Air samples are collected at six locations around the dredge area over an 8-hr period corresponding to high tides. None of last week's samples exceeded the Notice Level.

- a.) June 27, Mon: no dredging, background of 138 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;
- b.) June 28, Tue: 5.0 hr dredging, 190 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;
- c.) June 29, Wed: 3.5 hr dredging, 122 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;
- d.) June 30, Thu: no dredging, background of 115 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;
- e.) July 01, Fri: no dredging, background of 102 ng/m<sup>3</sup>.

Background samples are collected in the same manner as dredge monitoring samples, except during high tides when there is no dredging. The background samples are an indication of the PCB levels in the environment near the Hot Spot.

Background (high tide) samples are used to establish the Notice Level for dredge operations. With the addition of the background sample collected on June 27, the Notice Level increased to 220 ng/m<sup>3</sup>. With the additional data from June 30 and July 1, the Notice level is now 240 ng/m<sup>3</sup>.

On June 28, sampler #13, which is on the eastern shore near the Hot Spot, exceeded the Action Level of 500 ng/m<sup>3</sup>. It measured 618 ng/m<sup>3</sup>. During the period of sampling, winds were stronger than during any other sampling event in June and were predominantly from the south. The strong winds probably increased transfer of PCBs from the water to the air, causing the high reading.

Collection of air samples on the Sawyer Street property, around the Confined Disposal Facility, occurs twice weekly. The Sawyer Street location is more than one mile south of the Hot Spots. These samples are collected over a 24 hour duration.

- a.) Tue, June 28: average 80 ng/m<sup>3</sup> for six monitors, maximum of 509 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;
- b.) Thu, June 30: average 31 ng/m<sup>3</sup> for six monitors, maximum of 152 ng/m<sup>3</sup>.

Both maximum on-site readings occurred at the monitor on the north side of the CDF, next to Sparky's Cove. The highest measurement from Sawyer Street is usually at this monitor, probably because this monitor is closest to the Cove which contains large mudflats contaminated with PCBs.

4.) Six sediment samples collected from Hot Spot areas in which dredging is already complete, had PCB levels of 5 to 1371 ppm, with an average of 320 ppm. This dredging project is designed to remove sediments with PCB levels greater than 4000 ppm, these areas are called the "Hot Spots". PCB levels as high as 200,000 ppm have been found in the Hot Spots.

5.) Monitoring of water for biological toxicity and for PCB and metal concentrations continues. Samples collected during dredging do not show any greater contamination than samples collected before dredging began. This shows that the dredging is not spreading the contamination.

6.) There was no dredging subcommittee meeting on July 6. Daily reports, including preliminary air monitoring data, is provided to the chairman of the subcommittee upon receipt by EPA. The next meeting of the subcommittee is scheduled for July 13.

7.) The New Bedford Harbor Forum continues to meet regarding the selection of a technology to treat the Hot Spot sediments. The next meeting of the Forum is on July 12, at 6:00 pm in the New Bedford Vocational Technical High School. The public is encouraged to attend. Meetings are recorded and broadcast on local cable television channels in New Bedford, Fairhaven, and Acushnet.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

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### Progress Report for June 30, 1994

1.) Dredging of Hot Spot sediments to remove the principal source of PCB contamination in New Bedford Harbor occurred during morning high tides on June 23, 24, 28, and 29. No dredging occurred on June 27 in order to collect a high tide background sample.

Dredging is scheduled on afternoon high tides Tuesday through Friday of next week, July 5-8.

Approximately 1200 cubic yards of Hot Spot sediment has been removed to date. This represents 12% of the 10,000 cubic yards of Hot Spot sediments to be dredged in this phase of the project.

2.) The average PCB levels in air from samples collected over an 8 hour duration, including all dredging activities, at six locations near the dredge were:

- a.) June 20, Mon: 3.5 hrs dredging, 67 ng/m<sup>3</sup>
- b.) June 21, Tue: 2.0 hrs dredging, 77 ng/m<sup>3</sup>
- c.) June 22, Wed: no dredging, low tide background 116 ng/m<sup>3</sup>
- d.) June 23, Thu: 4.0 hrs dredging, 79 ng/m<sup>3</sup>
- e.) June 24, Fri: 1.5 hrs dredging, 98 ng/m<sup>3</sup>

None of these levels exceeded either the Notice Level or the Action Level.

3.) Air samples are also collected on the Sawyer Street property, around the Confined Disposal Facility, twice weekly. Each sample is collected over a 24 hour duration.

- a.) Wed, June 22: average 32 ng/m<sup>3</sup> for six monitors, maximum of 86 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;
- b.) Fri, June 24: average 44 ng/m<sup>3</sup> for six monitors, maximum of 95 ng/m<sup>3</sup>.

Both maximum on-site readings occurred at the monitor on the north side of the CDF next to the cove (Sampler 3).

4.) On June 16 Sampler 3 recorded a reading of 1852 ng/m<sup>3</sup>. EPA, COE and DEP reviewed all of the sampling data and weather conditions from this date and determined that this exceptionally high reading was likely caused by a storm and persistent strong winds which disturbed the existing contamination in the River and Cove and blew it into the sampler, rather than by the more distant dredging operation. The EPA and the ACOE followed all the procedures in this event.

Air samples collected immediately around the dredge during the same day were substantially lower, averaging 87 ng/m<sup>3</sup>.

In addition, dredge operators have noticed wide-spread oily sheens on the water surface after recent heavy rain storms. It appears that the wind and increased rain runoff from storms stir up the contaminated sediments on the bottom of the River, releasing PCB oils which spread over large areas of the water's surface.

5.) Monitoring of water for biological toxicity and for PCB and metal concentrations continues. There has not been any increase over similar measurements taken before dredging began.

6.) EPA, COE and MA DEP met with the dredging subcommittee on June 29. Daily reports, including preliminary air monitoring data, is provided to the chairman of the subcommittee upon receipt by EPA. The next meeting of the subcommittee is scheduled for July 13.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

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### Progress Report for June 23, 1994

1.) Dredging of Hot Spot sediments to remove the principal source of PCB contamination in New Bedford Harbor occurred during daytime high tides on June 16, 17, 20, 21, and 23. No dredging occurred on June 15 or 22 in order to collect background samples.

The background samples measure PCBs in the environment when there isn't any dredging going on. A comparison of background samples to the samples collected during dredging is an indication of the changes, if any, in air levels from dredging.

- 2.) Air monitoring data from the previous week was reviewed.
- a.) June 13, Mon: 5 hrs dredging, 83 ng/m<sup>3</sup>
  - b.) June 14, Tue: 2 hrs dredging, 96 ng/m<sup>3</sup>
  - c.) June 15, Wed: no dredging, background at 77 ng/m<sup>3</sup>
  - d.) June 16, Thu: 3 hrs dredging, 87 ng/m<sup>3</sup>
  - e.) June 17, Fri: 5 hrs dredging, 78 ng/m<sup>3</sup>

3.) The most recent background sampling data was added to the calculation of the Notice Level, which increased from 153 ng/m<sup>3</sup> to 172 ng/m<sup>3</sup>. The Notice Level is used to notify the dredge operators of the potential need to adjust the dredging process to minimize increases in PCBs air levels. The Notice Level was not exceeded during the past week.

There is a general trend of increasing levels of PCBs in the air at the dredging area, on the Sawyer Street property, and in surrounding areas. This increase is because the transfer of PCBs into the air is greater when the air and water temperatures are greater. Because air and water temperatures will increase as the summer progresses, it is expected that the air levels will also increase. EPA and COE will continue to monitor the increasing levels of PCBs in the air by collecting background samples.

4.) Monitoring of personnel on the dredge and in the wastewater treatment plant continues to indicate that all exposures are less than the NIOSH recommended exposure limit.

5.) Collection of air samples around the Confined Disposal Facility at the end of Sawyer Street occurs twice weekly. Each sample is collected over a 24 hour duration. Preliminary data for June 16 indicates an average of 308 ng/m<sup>3</sup> for six monitors, with a maximum of 1852 ng/m<sup>3</sup> at the monitor on the north side of the CDF, next to the cove. A review of the laboratory procedures indicate that these samples should be re-analyzed to check the reported value. After the samples are re-analyzed, the reported values may change. None the less, EPA and COE are investigating possible causes for this unusually high preliminary reading reported for June 16.

6.) Monitoring of water for biological toxicity and for PCB and metal concentrations continues. There has not been any increase over similar measurements taken before dredging began.

7.) EPA, COE and MA DEP met with the dredging subcommittee on June 23 to review data collected over the previous two weeks. Daily reports, including preliminary air monitoring data, are provided to the chairman of the subcommittee.

8.) The next New Bedford Harbor Forum meeting is on July 5, at 6:00 pm in the New Bedford Vocational Technical High School. The public is encouraged to attend. Meetings are recorded and broadcast on local cable television channels in New Bedford, Fairhaven, and Acushnet.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

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### Progress Report for June 16, 1994

1.) Dredging of Hot Spot sediment to remove the principal source of PCB contamination to New Bedford Harbor continued on morning high tides of June 9-10, and June 13-14. Dredging time was shortened on Tuesday, June 14 because of a lightening storm. No dredging took place on Wednesday, June 15, in order to collect a background sample. Dredging is scheduled during daytime high tides, Monday through Friday, of next week.

2.) Results from air sampling during the week of June 6-10 were reviewed. The sample collected on June 3, which was delayed by express mailing error, was also reported. The average PCB levels collected at six locations around the Hot Spot during high tides were:

- a.) June 03, Fri: 6.5 hrs dredging, 116 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;
- b.) June 06, Mon: no dredging, high winds, 138 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;
- c.) June 07, Tue: 4.0 hrs dredging, 106 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;
- d.) June 08, Wed: 4.5 hrs dredging, 158 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;
- e.) June 09, Thu: 5.0 hrs dredging, 62 ng/m<sup>3</sup>;
- f.) June 10, Fri: 5.0 hrs dredging, 148 ng/m<sup>3</sup>

3.) The background sample collected on June 6 was added to the calculation for the Notice Level, which increased from 105 ng/m<sup>3</sup> to 153 ng/m<sup>3</sup>. The Notice Level was exceeded one day last week.

A background sample measures the PCB levels found in the environment, when there is no dredging. The Notice Level is used to notify the dredge operators of the potential need to adjust the dredging process to minimize increases in PCB air levels.

4.) An oil skimmer has been used since Friday, June 10, to assist in the removal of the PCB oil sheen. The oil sheen develops when dredging or other conditions disturb the sediment, causing the oils temporarily to rise and spread in a very thin layer across the water's surface. Floating absorbent oil booms surround the dredge and the immediate dredging area to capture any oil not recovered by the oil skimmer. The hood on the dredge head has been modified, and has remained in use since May 25.

5.) Monitoring of personnel working on the dredge and inside the water treatment plant continues to indicate that worker exposure is below the established limit. Because their levels of exposure are consistently low, onsite workers and dredge operators are not wearing respirators.

6.) Water samples collected at the Coggeshall Street Bridge have not shown any increases in toxicity or PCB levels above measurements taken before the start of dredging. Analysis of mussels that were in the water at the Coggeshall Street Bridge during the first month of dredging, indicate bioaccumulation of PCBs has not increased. These tests show that the dredging has not increased the movement of PCBs from the Hot Spot into the rest of the Harbor.

7.) Personnel from the New Bedford Fire Department were at the site on Tuesday, June 14, for training in hazardous materials response. The New Bedford Fire Department has received specialized equipment from EPA for fighting fires involving hazardous materials.

8.) The weekly meeting with the dredging subcommittee was cancelled on June 15, at the request of the committee. A meeting is scheduled next week.

9.) The next meeting of the community Forum will discuss treatment alternatives for the Hot Spot sediment. The meeting will be held July 5 at the Greater New Bedford Vocational High School at 6 p.m.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

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### Progress Report for June 9, 1994

- 1.) Dredging of Hot Spot sediment to remove the principal source of PCB contamination to New Bedford Harbor continued on afternoon high tides of June 2-3, and June 7-9. On Monday, June 6, there was no dredging because of windy conditions. Dredging is scheduled during morning high tides, Monday through Friday, of next week.
- 2.) Results from air sampling during the week of May 30 - June 3 were reviewed. The average PCB levels from samples collected at six locations over an 8 hour period including dredging activities were:
  - a.) May 30, Mon: holiday, no dredging and no air sampling;
  - b.) May 31, Tue: 45 minutes of dredging, 163 n/m<sup>3</sup>;
  - c.) June 1, Wed: 5.5 hrs dredging, 119 n/m<sup>3</sup>;
  - d.) June 2, Thu: 6.5 hrs dredging, 131 n/m<sup>3</sup>;
  - e.) June 3, Fri: sample shipment to lab delayed by Federal Express, data not available until next week.
- 3.) The Notice Level of 105 n/m<sup>3</sup> was exceeded on three days. The Notice Level is based upon background air samples, and is used to notify the dredge operators of the potential need to adjust the dredging process to minimize increases in PCB air levels. The greatest air level last week occurred on the day with the least amount of dredging. On that day, the onsite weather station recorded a maximum amount of sunlight, which would increase the volatilization of PCBs from the water to the air.
- 4.) Additional modifications to control the release of PCBs to the air are being tested. These modifications include using an oil skimmer to remove the oils as they reach the water surface, or spraying the water surface with a surfactant (soap) solution to break-up the oil sheen. The oil sheen is created when dredging or other conditions disturb the sediment and the oils temporarily rise and spread in a very thin layer across the water's surface. The floating absorbent booms collect the sheen.
- 5.) Treated water from the wastewater treatment plant and river water from the Coggeshall Street Bridge continues to meet all standards and guidelines.
- 6.) Monitoring of personnel working on the dredge and inside the water treatment plant continues to indicate that worker exposure is below the established limit. Because their levels of exposure are consistently low, onsite workers and dredge operators are not wearing respirators.

7.) EPA, COE, and MADEP met with the dredging subcommittee on June 8 to review air monitoring data, water monitoring data, and personnel monitoring data.

8.) The next meeting of the community Forum will discuss treatment alternatives for the Hot Spot sediment. The meeting will be on Tuesday, June 14, at 6:00 at the Acushnet Elementary School.

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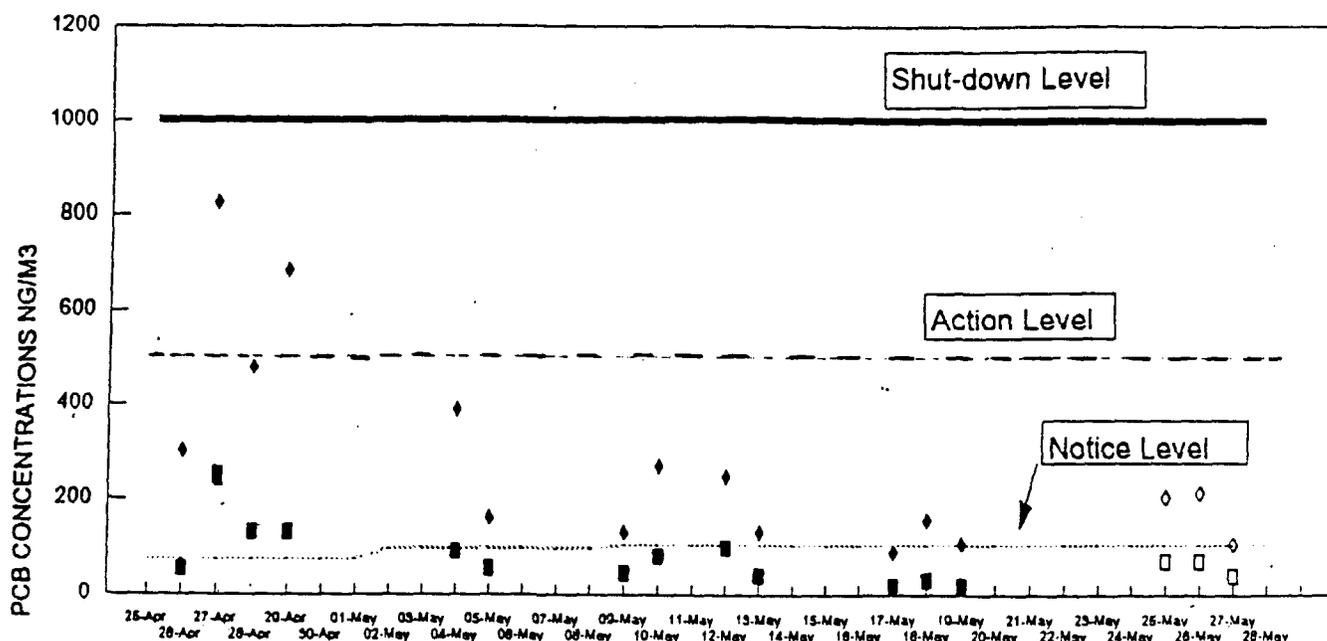
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### Progress Report for June 2, 1994

#### Air Sample Results and Trigger Levels



○ Preliminary Dredging Maximum   ♦ Dredging Maximum  
■ Dredging Average   □ Preliminary Dredging Average

There are three standards based on PCBs in the air that are used to control dredging operations of the Hot Spots: a Shut-down Level, an Action Level and a Notice Level. The graph from the first four weeks of dredging shows that the Shut-down Level has never been exceeded. The Action Level and the Notice Level both were exceeded during the first week of dredging, but there have been no exceedances since changes were made to dredge operations on May 4, at the start of the second week of dredging.

- 1.) The Shut-down Level is based on the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) standard for toxic substances in the workplace, which is 1000 ng/m<sup>3</sup>. NIOSH considers it safe for an individual to be exposed to 1000 ng/m<sup>3</sup> of P for 40 hours per week, every week for 50 years. If any one air sample exceeds the Shut-down Level, dredging will be stopped until the source of the PCBs can be identified and corrective action taken.
- 2.) The Action Level is one-half the NIOSH standard, or 500 ng/m<sup>3</sup>. If any one air sample exceeds the Action Level, the dredging contractor must make changes in the dredging process to reduce the levels of PCBs emitted. These changes may include reducing the period of dredging each day or operating the dredge at lower speeds.
- 3.) The Notice Level is based upon measured background PCB levels in the vicinity of the Hot Spot. The background levels are the PCB levels that are determined during times when there are no dredging. The Notice Level is based on the average of the previous background sampling events plus 30 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, which represents an increased risk of less than 3 in 10,000,000 for the dredging period. The background level is determined from air samplers in the dredging area.

If the average daily sample exceeds the Hot Spot Notice Level, the contractor must notify the government and identify a corrective action. If the Notice Level is exceeded in two consecutive average samples, the government can direct the contractor to implement the corrective action. If the Notice Level is exceeded in 5 of 10 consecutive sampling events, the contractor is required to either implement corrective actions or shut-down the dredge.

1.) Dredging of Hot Spot sediment to remove the principal source of PCB contamination to New Bedford Harbor continued on afternoon high tides of May 27, 31, and June 1. There was no dredging over the holiday weekend. Dredging is planned for high tides, Monday through Friday, of next week.

2.) Preliminary results of air monitoring during the week of May 23-27 were reviewed. Preliminary results need to be confirmed and may change. The average PCB levels measured during dredging at six locations near the Hot Spots were:

- a.) May 23, Mon: no dredging and no air sampling
- b.) May 24, Tue: no dredging and no air sampling
- c.) May 25, Wed: dredging, 72 ng/m<sup>3</sup>
- d.) May 26, Thu: dredging, 73 ng/m<sup>3</sup>
- e.) May 27, Fri: dredging, 41 ng/m<sup>3</sup>.

3.) The results from background samples collected during the daytime high tides on May 6, 11, and 19, when no dredging occurred, were 49, 53, and 21 ng/m<sup>3</sup>, respectively. These new background measurements were added to the Notice Level, which will change the Notice Level from 106 to 105 ng/m<sup>3</sup>.

4.) Monitoring of treated water from the wastewater treatment plant and river water from the Coggeshall Street Bridge continues to meet all standards and guidelines.

5.) EPA, COE, and MADEP met with the dredging subcommittee on June 1 to review data from the previous week.

6.) The next forum meeting to discuss the New Bedford Superfund project is Monday, June 6, at 6:00 p.m. at the New Bedford Vocational Technical High School.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

Contacts: Gayle Garman, EPA Project Manager, (508) 999-7270

Kristen Fadden, Community Relations, (617) 565-4154

### Progress Report for May 26, 1994

1.) Dredging of Hot Spot sediments to remove the principal source of PCB contamination in New Bedford Harbor occurred during daytime high tides on May 17-18 and May 25-26. Dredging is scheduled Monday through Friday during daytime high tides through August 30.

2.) On May 17-18 an oily sheen containing PCBs was disturbed by dredging and rose to the surface. Because it was difficult to remove or control the oily sheen on May 17-18, scheduled dredging did not proceed on May 19-20 or May 23-24.

The results of air and water monitoring for May 17-18 indicate that the oily sheen did not increase levels of PCBs in the air or water (see items 3 & 4, below). Dredging resumed on May 25-26 with a modification to the dredge: a hood has been installed over the dredge head to catch the released oil before it reaches the water surface and direct it into the dredge pipe.

3.) Data from air monitoring samples collected the previous week were reviewed. The average PCB levels collected in the vicinity of the Hot Spot during high tides were:

- a.) Monday, May 16, no dredging, 26 nanograms/cubic meter ( $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ );
- b.) Tuesday, May 17, during dredging, 21  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
- c.) Wednesday May 18, during dredging, 32  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
- d.) Thursday, May 19, no dredging, 21  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
- e.) Friday, May 20, no dredging and no air sample collected.

The average is calculated from air samplers in 6 locations at and around the dredging area. The average number is used because it is more representative of risks to the surrounding community. Since changes to the dredging operation were made two weeks ago, none of the daily averages for air monitoring have exceeded the notice level.

4.) For comparison, air samples collected during low tide on Thursday, May 5, when no dredging occurred, indicated an average PCB level of 119  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ . The Hot Spots are inter-tidal areas, which are not covered by water during low tide, allowing the PCBs to migrate directly from the sediment into the air. This release of PCBs from the sediment to the air will continue at every low tide as long as the PCBs remain.

5.) River water samples were collected under the Coggeshall Street Bridge on May 17. These samples were tested for toxicity to marine organisms and PCB concentrations. All samples passed the toxicity testing, indicating that the dredging did not affect the survival of organisms in New Bedford Harbor or Buzzards Bay. PCB concentrations were within the range of concentrations found during previous testing.

6.) The water treatment plant is operating continuously. Testing of effluent from the treatment plant continues to meet all standards and requirements. Through May 25, approximately 5.4 million gallons of water and 455 cubic yards of contaminated sediment had been dredged and transferred to the CDF at Sawyer Street. The estimated volume of Hot Spot sediment to be removed is 10,000 cubic yards.

7.) EPA, COE, and MA DEP met with the dredging subcommittee on May 25 to review project progress, monitoring data, decision-making and communication. The next subcommittee meeting will be held on June 1.

#### Planned Activities During the Next Week

1.) Air samples will continue to be collected near the Hot Spot each day that dredging occurs (sample locations 10-16). Air samples will be collected near the CDF each week (sample locations 7-9). Results of the previous week's sampling will be reviewed upon receipt.

2.) Dredging is expected to occur on the high tide, Tuesday through Friday of next week. Inspection of the dredging pipeline will occur each day before dredging begins. The pipeline is flushed with river water and discharged into the CDF at the completion of each dredging shift.

3.) Water samples will continue to be collected at the Coggeshall Street Bridge for PCB analysis and toxicity testing as dredging proceeds.

4.) The water treatment plant will operate continuously, 24 hours per day. The treated water will be sampled frequently and will only be discharged as long as testing shows that all standards are being met.

5.) The EPA, MADEP, and interested local officials and citizens are participating in a forum to discuss the New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site. The next meeting of the Forum will be Monday, June 6, at the New Bedford Vocational Technical School at 6:00 pm. Forum meetings are open to the public.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

Contacts: Gayle Garman, EPA Project Manager, (508) 999-7270

Kristen Fadden, Community Relations, (617) 565-4154

### Progress Report for May 18, 1994

- 1.) Dredging of Hot Spot sediments to remove the principal source of PCB contamination in New Bedford Harbor occurred during daytime high tides on Thursday and Friday, May 12-13, and on Tuesday, May 17. Dredging is scheduled to continue on weekdays during daytime high tides through August 30.
- 2.) Data from air monitoring samples collected the previous week were reviewed. The average PCB levels collected in the vicinity of the Hot Spot during high tides were:
  - a.) Monday, May 9, during dredging, 48 nanograms/cubic meter ( $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ )
  - b.) Tuesday, May 10, during dredging, 84  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
  - c.) Wednesday May 11, no dredging, 56  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
  - d.) Thursday, May 12, during dredging, 100  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
  - e.) Friday, May 13, during dredging, 44  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ .

The average is calculated from air samplers in 6 locations at and around the dredging area. The average number is used since it is more representative of the risks to the surrounding community. **Since changes to the dredging operations aimed at lowering levels of PCBs in air were made last week, none of the daily averages for air monitoring exceeded the notice level.**

- 3.) For comparison, one sample collected during low tide on Thursday, May 5, indicated an average PCB level of 119  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ . There is no dredging during low tides.
- 4.) Each dredging day, river water samples were collected under the Coggeshall Street Bridge and at the hurricane barrier. These samples are tested for toxicity to marine organisms. All samples passed the toxicity testing, indicating that the dredging did not affect the survival of organisms in New Bedford Harbor or Buzzards Bay.
- 5.) The water treatment plant is operating continuously. Testing of effluent from the treatment plant continues to meet all standards and requirements. Through May 17 approximately 4.1 million gallons of water and 390 cubic yards of contaminated sediment had been dredged.
- 6.) At the request of the chair of the dredging subcommittee of the Community Forum, no meeting was held on May 18. The next subcommittee meeting will be held on May 25.

### Planned Activities During the Next Week

- 1.) As per the contract specifications, the frequency of the sampling around and near the CDF (sample locations 1-6) changed from daily to twice a week and once weekly near the CDF (sample locations 7-10). Examination of the data around and near the CDF indicates that daily monitoring is no longer necessary. **The dredging monitoring will continue each day of dredging (sample locations 11-16).**
- 2.) Dredging is expected to occur on the high tide, Monday through Friday. Inspection of the dredging pipeline will occur each day before dredging begins.
- 3.) Sampling of air will occur each day to monitor for changes in contaminant levels. Results from the previous week's sampling will be reviewed upon receipt.
- 4.) Water samples will be collected for PCB analysis and toxicity testing each day that dredging occurs.
- 5.) The water treatment plant operates continuously, 24 hours per day. The treated water is sampled frequently and may only be discharged as long as testing shows that all standards are being met.
- 6.) The EPA, MADEP, and interested local officials and citizens are participating in a forum to discuss the New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site. Forum meetings are open to the public.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

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### Progress Report for May 12, 1994

1.) Dredging of Hot Spot sediments to remove the principal source of PCB contamination in New Bedford Harbor occurred during daytime high tides on Wednesday and Thursday, May 4-5, and on Monday and Tuesday, May 9-10.

Dredging is scheduled to continue on weekdays during daytime high tides through August 30.

2.) Through May 10 approximately 3.5 million gallons of water and 304 cubic yards of contaminated sediment had been dredged. Removal of contaminated sediment is proceeding more slowly than planned because dredging operations were slowed down to minimize the release of PCBs to the air.

3.) On May 6, rainwater that had collected on the CDF cover was pumped into the Acushnet River. A corner of the CDF cover was then pulled back in order to check on the diffuser. A partial blockage of stones and shells was found and removed in the dredge pipeline near the point of discharge into the CDF.

4.) During high tide on May 11, the sediment curtains were bundled so that they would not touch the contaminated sediment at the bottom of the River. This will show if the movement of the weighted bottom of the curtains is disturbing the contaminated mud and releasing PCBs into the water and air. The curtains were then moved to deep water and secured. Monitoring data collected after the bundling of the curtains will be reviewed to see if this change reduces the levels of PCBs in air and water. Additional modifications continue to be looked into.

5.) Data from air monitoring samples collected the previous week were reviewed. The average PCB levels collected in the vicinity of the Hot Spot during high tides were:

- a.) Monday, May 2, no dredging, 90 nanograms/cubic meter ( $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ );
- b.) Wednesday, May 4, during dredging, 108  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
- c.) Thursday, May 5, during dredging, 56  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ;
- d.) Friday, May 6, no dredging, 48  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ .

The average is calculated from air samplers in 6 locations at and around the dredging area. The average number is used since it is more representative of the long term risk.

6.) A sample collected during low tide on Thursday, May 5, indicated an average PCB level of 119  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ .

7.) Each dredging day, river water samples were collected under the Coggeshall Street Bridge and at the hurricane barrier. These samples are tested for toxicity to marine organisms. All samples passed the toxicity testing, indicating that the dredging did not affect the survival of organisms in New Bedford Harbor or Buzzards Bay.

8.) The water treatment plant operated continuously until one of the ultra-violet lamps burned out on May 7. The lamp was replaced on May 9 and operations resumed. Testing of effluent from the treatment plant continues to meet all standards and requirements. Approximately 2.4 million gallons of water has been treated.

9.) EPA and COE met with the dredging subcommittee on May 11, to review dredging progress and monitoring data. The next meeting will be May 18.

#### Planned Activities During the Next Week

1.) Dredging is expected to occur on the high tide, Tuesday through Friday. The high tide on Monday will not provide enough water depth to dredge. Inspection of the dredging pipeline will occur each day before dredging begins.

2.) Sampling of air will occur each day to monitor for changes in contaminant levels. Results from the previous week's sampling will be reviewed upon receipt.

3.) Water samples will be collected for PCB analysis and toxicity testing each day that dredging occurs.

4.) The water treatment plant operates continuously, 24 hours per day. The treated water is sampled frequently and may only be discharged as long as testing shows that all standards are being met.

5.) The EPA, MADEP, and interested local officials and citizens are participating in a forum to discuss the New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site. Forum meetings are open to the public. The next forum meeting is May 18, 1994, at 6:00 at the New Bedford Vocational Technical School.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND-SITE

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Kristen Fadden, Community Relations, (617) 565-4154

### Progress Report for May 5, 1994

1.) Dredging of Hot Spot sediments to remove the principal source of PCB contamination in New Bedford Harbor occurred during daytime high tides on Tuesday through Friday, April 26 - 29. Dredging was stopped early on April 29 because the CDF was full.

2.) On April 29, the water treatment plant began operations to treat water from the CDF. Treated water must be recycled to the CDF until testing shows that the standards are being met. Discharge of treated water to the Acushnet River commenced late Monday afternoon, May 2 after all samples of treated water met the standards for PCBs and metals.

3.) Dredging did not occur on May 3, in order to collect an air sample during the daytime high tide without dredging. This data will be used to determine if the increase in air PCB levels is from dredging or from other sources.

4.) Dredging began again on the high tide of Wednesday, May 4, after modifications were made to the dredging process. The modifications (reduce the speed of cutterhead rotation and dredge arm motion) are expected to reduce the air levels.

5.) Small oily sheens are being observed in the dredging area and around the silt curtains. These sheens have been observed in past studies of the Hot Spot and analysis has indicated they are PCB oils.

COE has installed floating absorbent booms to surround these sheens, and uses the dredge to remove visible sheens during dredging operations. Additional modifications may be required to remove these sheens and reduce air PCB levels.

6.) Air samples were collected during high tide on each day of dredging. The results from laboratory analysis of air samples collected in the vicinity of the Hot Spot during dredging April 26-29 showed an increase in PCB levels (63, 116, 133, 134 ng/m<sup>3</sup>). The Notice Level for the Hot Spot is 75 ng/m<sup>3</sup>. The Notice Level guides EPA and the ACOE to make modifications in the dredging process. Dredging modifications were started May 4, when dredging began again.

7.) Each dredging day, river water samples were collected under the Coggeshall Street Bridge. These samples are tested for toxicity to marine organisms. All samples passed the toxicity testing, indicating that the dredging did not affect the survival of organisms in the River or Harbor.

5.) EPA, DEP, and COE met with the dredging subcommittee on May 4, to review dredging progress and monitoring data. Monitoring data packages are provided to the chairman of the subcommittee when it is received by EPA. The next meeting will be May 10.

Planned Activities During the Next Week

1.) Dredging is expected to occur on each weekday high tide. Inspection of the dredging pipeline occurs daily before dredging can begin. Also, sampling of air and water will occur on each dredging day to monitor for increases in contaminant levels. Results from the previous week's sampling will be reviewed daily, upon receipt.

2.) The water treatment plant operates 24 hrs. per day. The treated water is sampled daily and may only be discharged as long as testing shows that all standards are being met.

3.) The EPA, MADEP, and interested local officials and citizens are participating in a public forum to discuss the New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

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Kristen Fadden, Community Relations, (617) 565-4154

### Progress Report for April 28, 1994

Dredging of the Hot Spot began on Tuesday, April 26. Dredging to remove the PCB contaminated Hot Spot sediment will continue each weekday on the high tide.

A Fact Sheet on dredging and air monitoring was mailed to the site mailing list. A Portuguese translation has been mailed to the Portuguese-language mailing list. Anyone who would like a copy of this Fact Sheet should contact Kristen Fadden by calling the telephone number above. Please leave your name and mailing address on the answering machine.

- 1.) Before dredging began, a floating plastic cover was placed over Cell 1 in the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF), which is receiving the dredged sediment. The floating cover prevents air emissions of PCBs from the dredged sediment in the CDF.
- 2.) Before dredging began, sediment curtains were anchored in place in the northern Acushnet River to completely surround the dredge. The sediment curtains are a barrier to the movement of sediment away from the dredging area.
- 3.) Each day the entire mile-long dredge pipeline is inspected before the start of dredging. Prior to dredging, on Monday, April 25, a small leak was detected at one of the clean-out joints. This was repaired Monday afternoon and the pipeline was inspected and pressure tested on Tuesday morning prior to the start of dredging.
- 4.) Dredging of Hot Spot sediments began at the northern most dredge area on Tuesday, April 26, and continued on April 27, and 28. Dredging will continue on daylight high tides, moving from north to south.
- 5.) Small floating slicks of PCB oils are being observed in the dredging area. The Corps of Engineers has installed floating absorbent booms to surround these slicks during dredging and to remove the slicks at the end of each dredging shift.
- 6.) Results from the water monitoring samples collected on Tuesday, April 26, during and immediately after dredging activities indicated PCB concentrations of 430 nanograms/Liter (ng/L) or parts per trillion on the outgoing tide, and 360 ng/L on the next incoming tide. All samples passed the



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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

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Kristen Fadden, Community Relations, (617) 565-4154

### Progress Report for April 21, 1994

**This progress report highlights the activities that have occurred over the last week and activities that are expected to occur next week at the New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site.**

Dredging of the Hot Spot is currently scheduled to begin on, or soon after, Tuesday April 26. Deployment of the floating cover for the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) has been slowed by windy conditions. Dredging of the Hot Spot sediment will not begin until the floating cover has been installed on the CDF. Dredging is not being scheduled on weekends in April and May.

#### Progress Report for April 21, 1994

1.) The dredge finished pumping water from the southern Acushnet River into the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF). The diffuser was shown to successfully reduce turbulence where the dredge pipeline discharges into the CDF.

Once dredging begins, the dredged sediment will sink to the bottom of the CDF. The extra water which has been pumped into the CDF will be a barrier to emission of PCBs from the dredged sediment. The plastic cover which will float on top of the water in the CDF will provide a second barrier to PCB emissions.

2.) The cutterhead dredge was moved to the dredging support area in the northern Acushnet River where it will remain anchored until dredging begins.

3.) The dredge pipeline was anchored in place along the western shoreline of the Acushnet River.

4.) The flowmeter and density meter to monitor the sediments as they are pumped through the dredge pipeline were installed and calibrated.

5.) The New Bedford Fire Department received the loan of \$65,000 worth of specialized hazardous materials emergency response equipment from the Environmental Protection Agency.

6.) The EPA and Army Corps of Engineers received laboratory reports on water samples collected at the Coggeshall Street Bridge. On April 13, when the dredge was pumping water into the CDF, the concentrations of PCBs were consistent with measurements taken four weeks ago. On April 13, the measured PCB concentrations were 330 nanograms per/Liter (ng/L) or parts per trillion on the incoming tide, and 470 ng/L on the outgoing tide.

#### Planned Activities During the Next Week

1.) Dredging of Hot Spot sediments to remove the principal source of PCB contamination in New Bedford Harbor will begin.

2.) Before dredging begins, the floating cover will be installed to completely cover Cell 1 in the CDF, which will receive the dredged sediment. Cell 1 has a surface area of 2 acres.

3.) Air samples will be collected on each day of dredging to monitor the levels of PCBs in air. The results from the air sampling will be compared to the background levels measured on March 11 through 19.

4.) Water samples will be collected on each day of dredging to measure the transport of PCBs under the Coggeshall Street Bridge and for toxicity testing using marine organisms.

5.) The EPA, MADEP, and interested local officials and citizens are participating in a public forum to discuss the New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site. The next open forum will be Wednesday, April 27, at 6:00 p.m., at the New Bedford Technical Vocational High School.



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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

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Kristen Fadden, Community Relations, (617) 565-4154

### Progress Report for April 14, 1994

This progress report highlights the activities that have occurred over the last week and activities that are expected to occur next week at the New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site.

Delivery of the floating cover for the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) was delayed by a trucking strike. Dredging of the Hot Spot sediment will not begin until the floating cover has been installed on the CDF. Dredging of the Hot Spot is currently scheduled to begin on, or soon after, Friday, April 22. Dredging has not been scheduled during weekends.

- 1.) The cutterhead dredge was moved to the Acushnet River just north of the Coggeshall Street Bridge, where it is anchored while pumping water from the river into the Confined Disposal Facility. Once dredging of Hot Spot sediment begins, the dredged sediment will sink to the bottom of the CDF. The extra water above the sediment in the CDF will help to keep PCBs from being emitted into the air. The plastic cover which will float on top of the water in the CDF will provide another barrier to prevent PCB emissions.
- 2.) The diffuser, which is a special design to reduce turbulence from the discharge of material at the end of the pipeline, was fused to one section of pipeline.
- 3.) The EPA, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, and Army Corps of Engineers met with the Dredging Safety Committee to discuss the air action levels. The action levels are designed to ensure that dredging operations will not cause an increased risk of harm to human health.
- 4.) Site personnel and emergency responders for the City of New Bedford received training about site hazards and emergency procedures.

#### Planned Activities During the Next Week

- 1.) The dredge will be moved to the support area in the northern Acushnet River.

- more -

2.) The floating cover for the large CDF cell will be delivered and installed. This cover will form an impermeable barrier to prevent PCB emissions from the CDF. Dredging of Hot Spot sediment will not begin until the floating cover is installed.

3.) The Corps of Engineers and contract personnel will complete the installation of reference points in the northern Acushnet River to guide the positioning system for the dredge head.

4.) The dredge pipeline will be fused to form one continuous piece and will be towed by small boats to the northern Acushnet River. During dredging, the dredge will pump the Hot Spot sediments through the pipeline to the CDF at 103 Sawyer Street.

5.) A small trailer is located near the CDF to be used for monitoring the diffuser and the pipeline.

6.) The EPA, MADEP, and interested local officials and citizens are participating in a public forum to discuss the New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site. The next public forum will be Wednesday, April 27, at 6:00 pm, at the New Bedford Technical Vocational High School.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

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### Progress Report for April 7, 1994

This progress report highlights the activities that have occurred over the last week and are expected to occur next week at the New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site. Preparation for dredging the PCB Hot Spot sediment continues.

- 1.) EPA, Massachusetts DEP, and the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) have developed risk-based action levels based upon data from the pre-operational air sampling. The action levels insure that dredging operations will not cause an increased risk of harm to human health. The EPA, DEP, and ACOE will meet with the dredging safety committee to discuss the action levels.
- 2.) The heat fusing of dredge pipeline is nearly complete. During dredging, the dredged sediments will move through the pipeline to the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) at 103 Sawyer Street.
- 3.) Utilities for the dredging support trailer located on private property near the Hot Spot have been installed.
- 4.) A small trailer, which will be the support area for monitoring the diffuser and the pipeline in the vicinity of the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF), has been placed on the northwest corner of the CDF.

#### Planned Activities During the Next Week

- 1.) The cutterhead dredge will be moved to the Acushnet River just north of the Coggeshall Street Bridge and anchored in place.
- 2.) The diffuser, which is a special design which reduces turbulence from the discharge of material at the end of the pipeline, will be fused to one section of pipeline. After the diffuser is fused to a pipeline section, the dredge and diffuser will be used to pump river water into the CDF.  
Once dredging of sediment begins, the sediment will sink to the bottom of the CDF. The extra water above the sediment in the CDF will help to keep the PCBs in the sediment from being emitted into the air.

- 2.) Sections of dredge pipeline will be towed by small boats to the northern Acushnet River.
- 3.) The Corps of Engineers and contract personnel will be working from small boats in the northern Acushnet River to install guides and reference points for the dredging.
- 4.) Site personnel and emergency responders for the City of New Bedford will hold an on-site drill.
- 5.) The floating cover for the large CDF cell will be delivered and installation will begin after the CDF is filled.
- 6.) The EPA, DEP, and interested local officials and citizens are continuing their participation in a public forum to discuss the New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site. The next open forum will be Wednesday, April 13, at 7:00 pm, at the Acushnet Elementary School.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

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### Progress Report for March 31, 1994

This progress report highlights the activities that have occurred over the last week and are expected to occur next week at the New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site. A summary of the results of existing air and water conditions, and the preparations for harbor dredging are included. Dredging has not begun.

1.) The EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers received final laboratory reports from the existing conditions air samples collected March 11 through 19. All samples exceeded the proposed Massachusetts Ambient Air Limit of 0.5 nanograms/cubic meter ( $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ).

The overall average PCB air level near the Hot Spot is 40  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ . This average exposure level represents an increased lifetime carcinogenic risk of 8 in 100,000. The Hot Spot data indicates that PCB levels in the air are greater during low tides, when the contaminated sediment is exposed to the air. Details of the results are as follows:

- a.) Samples collected over 24 hour durations from three locations near 103 Sawyer Street on March 11, 13, and 17 indicated PCB levels from 2 to 41  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ . The average value for nine samples collected over three days was 9  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ .
- b.) Samples collected over 24 hour durations from one location across the River from Sawyer Street on March 11 through March 19 indicated PCB levels from 16 to 24  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ . The average value for eight samples collected over eight days was 20  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ .
- c.) Samples collected from six locations around the Hot Spot on daytime low tides from March 11 through 14 indicated PCB levels from 3 to 335  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ . The average value for the twenty-four low tide samples collected over four days was 54  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ .
- d.) Samples collected from the six locations around the Hot Spot on daytime high tides from March 16 through 19 indicated PCB levels from 3 to 85  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ . The average value for the twenty-four high tide samples collected over four days was 25  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ .

2.) EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers received laboratory reports from the water samples collected at the Coggleshall Street Bridge on March 15 and 16. All samples exceeded the Massachusetts Ambient Water Quality criterion of 30 nanograms/liter (ng/L) or parts per trillion. Results are as follows:

a.) On March 15, the PCB concentration in the incoming tide was 480 ng/L, and on the ebbing tide 520 ng/L.

b.) On March 16, the PCB concentration in both the incoming tide and the ebbing tide was 400 ng/L.

3.) During a surprise drill on March 31, all site personnel and visitors evacuated in less than one minute.

4.) The joining of pipeline into 2000 foot sections continues. Approximately 3500 feet of the 6000 feet required is complete.

5.) A construction trailer has been delivered to the dredging support area adjacent to the Hot Spot in the northern Acushnet River. Utilities for the support trailer are being installed.

6.) A small trailer has been placed on the northwest corner of the Confined Disposal Facility. This will be the support area for monitoring the diffuser and the pipeline in the vicinity of the CDF.

#### Planned Activities During the Next Week

1.) EPA, Massachusetts DEP, and the Army Corps of Engineers will use the data from the pre-operational air sampling to develop risk-based action levels to control dredging operations. The use of action levels will insure that dredging operations will not cause an increased risk of harm to human health.

2.) The dredging contractor will continue heat-fusing of dredge pipeline sections.

3.) Site personnel and emergency responders for the City of New Bedford will hold an on-site drill.

4.) The diffuser will be delivered to the site and fused to one 2000 foot section of dredge pipeline.

5.) The floating cover for the large CDF cell will be delivered.

6.) The EPA, MADEP, and interested local officials and citizens have been participating in a public forum to discuss the New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site. The next open forum will be Wednesday, April 6, at 7:00 pm. Please call for the location.

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UNITED STATES  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
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US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
New England Division

## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

Contacts: Gayle Garman, EPA Project Manager, (617)223-5522  
Kristen Fadden, Community Relations, (617) 565-4154

### Progress Report for March 24, 1994

1.) Contractors for the EPA and Army Corps of Engineers finished collecting air samples to measure PCB levels in air near the Hot Spot and 103 Sawyer Street before beginning PCB clean up actions (background samples).

2.) EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers received laboratory reports from the first four days of background air sampling. All samples exceeded the proposed Massachusetts Ambient Air Limit of 0.5 nanograms/cubic meter ( $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ). Results are as follows:

a.) Samples collected from six locations around the Hot Spot on daytime low tides from March 11 through 14 indicated PCB levels from 3 to 335  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ . The average value was 54.2  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ .

b.) Samples collected over 24 hour durations from three locations near 103 Sawyer Street on March 11 and March 13 indicated PCB levels from 3 to 41  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ . The average value was 11.6  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ .

c.) Samples collected over 24 hour durations from one location across the River from Sawyer Street on March 11 through March 14 indicated PCB levels from 16 to 21  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ . The average value was 18.7  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ .

3.) Dredge pipeline sections were delivered. The joining of pipeline sections by heat fusing is underway. Approximately 650 feet of pipeline has been completed.

4.) A construction trailer has been delivered to the dredging support area adjacent to the Hot Spot in the northern Acushnet River.

5.) The cutterhead dredge was moved by flatbed truck to temporary storage in the New Bedford area.

- more -

Planned Activities During the Next

1.) EPA and Army Corps of Engineers will review data from the second set of pre-operational air samplings. The pre-operational air data will be used to establish action levels to control PCB levels in air during dredging. The use of action levels will insure that dredging operations will not cause an increased risk of harm to human health or the environment.

2.) Continue construction of dredge pipeline.

3.) Install small trailer at northeast corner of the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) to support future monitoring of dredge pipeline and diffuser.

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## NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE

### Progress Report for March 24, 1994

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- 2.) EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers received laboratory reports from the first four days of background air sampling. All samples exceeded the proposed Massachusetts Ambient Air Limit of 0.5 nanograms/cubic meter ( $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ ). Results are as follows:
  - a.) Samples collected from six locations around the Hot Spot on daytime low tides from March 11 through 14 indicated PCB levels from 3 to 335  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ . The average value was 54.2  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ .
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  - c.) Samples collected over 24 hour durations from one location across the River from Sawyer Street on March 11 through March 14 indicated PCB levels from 16 to 21  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ . The average value was 18.7  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$ .
- 3.) Dredge pipeline sections were delivered. The joining of pipeline sections by heat fusing is underway. Approximately 650 feet of pipeline has been completed.
- 4.) A construction trailer has been delivered to the dredging support area adjacent to the Hot Spot in the northern Acushnet River.
- 5.) The cutterhead dredge was moved by flatbed truck to temporary storage in the New Bedford area.

### Planned Activities During the Next Week

- 1.) EPA and Army Corps of Engineers will review data from the second set of pre-operational air samples. The pre-operational air data will be used to establish action levels to control PCB levels in air during dredging. The use of action levels will insure that dredging operations will not cause an increased risk of harm to human health or the environment.
- 2.) Continue construction of dredge pipeline.
- 3.) Install small trailer at northeast corner of the Confined Disposal Facility (CDF) to support future monitoring of dredge pipeline and diffuser.



US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
New England Division

## **NEW BEDFORD HARBOR SUPERFUND SITE**

**Contacts:** Gayle Garman, EPA Project Manager, (617)223-5522  
Kristen Fadden, Community Relations, (617) 565-4154

### **Progress Report for March 16, 1994**

- 1) **On-site wastewater treatment plant was inspected by fire, electric, and building inspectors for the City of New Bedford.**
- 2) **Contractors for the EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers began collecting air samples to measure PCB levels in the air near the Hot Spot and 103 Sawyer Street before starting PCB clean-up actions.**
- 3) **At the Coggeshall Street Bridge, water samples were collected over the complete tidal cycle for two days to measure PCB movement before the beginning of PCB dredging activities in the Acushnet River.**

### **Planned Activities During Next Week**

- 1) **Contractors will continue to collect air samples near the Hot Spot and at 103 Sawyer Street to measure PCB levels in the air prior to the start of clean-up actions. EPA and the Corps will receive air sample results from the prior week's sampling.**
- 2) **EPA, the Corps, and MA Department of Environmental Protection will review data from the water samples collected in the prior week.**
- 3) **There will be a final inspection of the fence around the Confined Disposal Facility and the attached windscreen.**
- 4) **The dredge pipeline sections are expected to be delivered on March 17. Contractors will begin heat-fusing the pipeline sections and float the fused lengths of the pipeline in the Acushnet River at the end of Washburn Street.**
- 5) **The cutterhead dredge will be delivered to the New Bedford area for temporary storage until needed at the Superfund site.**
- 6) **The installation of the support trailer near the Hot Spot is expected to begin.**