

New Bedford
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209126

MEMO

Date: July 25, 1996

From: David Dickerson, New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site RPM

To: National Remedy Review Board

Subject: Additional Material for Review

Enclosed are some materials to assist in your review of the New Bedford Harbor site:

- a summary sheet and bar graph listing the various clean up alternatives by cost
- "Attachment 1" of the original info package (the community Forum agreement)
- "Attachment 2" of the original info package (a letter of support from US Congressman Barney Frank)

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 617/573-5735 if you have any questions.

**Produced For The
12/96 AVX FOIA Request
New Bedford Harbor
Superfund Site**



Faxed to all the 7/25/96
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* Chairman

New Bedford Harbor Remedy Review Board Summary Sheet
ALTERNATIVES ARRANGED BY COST

Alter- native	Title	Cost (millions)	Description and Target Cleanup Levels	Residual Health Risk 10 Years After Completion of Remedy	Residual Ecological Risk 10 Years After Completion of Remedy
1.	Limited action only	\$9.4	No sediment cleanup at all. Monitoring and institutional controls prohibiting fishing and access.	Carc. Risk: 3×10^{-3} Hazard Index: 4 - 20	Ambient water column PCBs would be one to two orders of magnitude above the chronic PCB AWQC.
7.	Removal and capping, upper harbor only.	\$82.6	No cleanup at all in the lower harbor. In the upper harbor, sediments between 50 and 500 ppm PCBs would be capped, and sediments greater than 500 ppm PCBs would be dredged and disposed in CDFs A and B.	Carc. Risk: Upper Harbor: (see #8 below) Lower Harbor: 3×10^{-3} Hazard Index: Upper Harbor: <1 (1) Lower Harbor: 4 - 20	Roughly half of the upper harbor and all of the lower harbor would not attain AWQC. PCB levels would range to greater than 60 ng/l. (Fig. 7.32)
8.	Dredging at 50 ppm with CDF disposal	\$92.6	Sediments with greater than 50 ppm PCBs in both the upper and lower harbor would be dredged and disposed in CDF D.	Carc. Risk: (1) Children: 5×10^{-5} Adults: 1×10^{-5} Hazard Index: <1 (1)	Roughly half of the upper harbor and two-thirds of the lower harbor would not meet PCB AWQC. PCB levels would range to 40 ng/l. (Fig. 7.57)
"10."	Proposed Remedy	\$126.7	PCB cleanup levels of 10 ppm in the upper harbor and 50 ppm in the lower harbor would be used. Sediments above these levels would be dredged and disposed in shoreline CDFs A-D.	Carc. Risk: (1) Upper Harbor: 1×10^{-5} Lower Harbor: (see #8 above) Hazard Index: (1) Upper Harbor: <0.2 Lower Harbor: <1	Attainment of AWQC in most if not all areas of the site. (Fig. 7.41 & 7.57)
2.	Capping at 10 ppm	\$143.8	Sediments greater than 10 ppm PCBs would be capped in place with 3 to 5 ft of sand. CDFs B and C would nevertheless be required for disposal of sediments above 10 ppm in shipping channels.	Carc. Risk: 10^{-5} (1) Hazard Index: <0.2 (1)	Attainment of AWQC throughout the site. (Fig. 7.41)

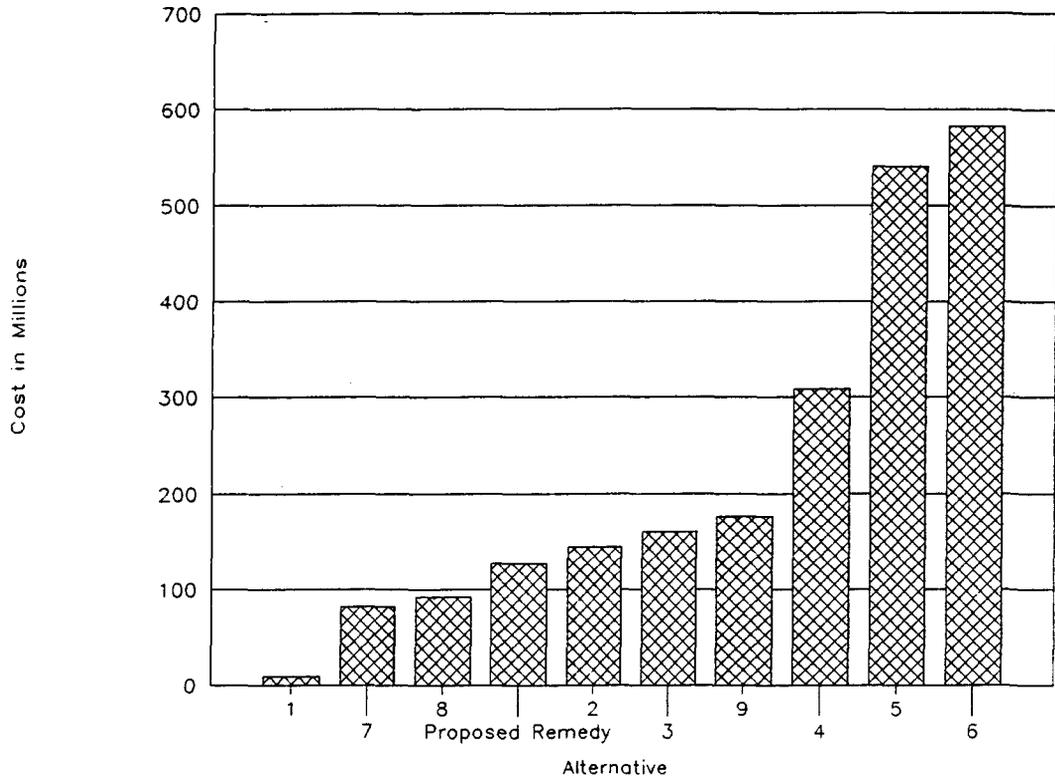
New Bedford Harbor Remedy Review Board Summary Sheet
ALTERNATIVES ARRANGED BY COST

Alternative	Title	Cost (millions)	Description and Target Cleanup Levels	Residual Health Risk 10 Years After Completion of Remedy	Residual Ecological Risk 10 Years After Completion of Remedy
3.	Dredging at 10 ppm with CDF disposal	\$159.8	Sediments with greater than 10 ppm PCBs in both the upper and lower harbor would be dredged and disposed in CDFs A - D plus a large Island CDF north of Popes Island in the lower harbor.	Carc. Risk: 10-5 (1) Hazard Index: <0.2 (1)	Attainment of AWQC throughout the site.
9.	Dredging at 50 ppm, treatment for sediments >500 ppm, and CDF D for both treated & untreated sediments	\$176.6	Sediments in both the upper and lower harbor greater than 50 ppm PCBs would be dredged and placed in CDF D. Those sediments above 500 ppm would then be treated with solvent extraction and returned to the CDF for final disposal.	(see Alternative #8 above)	(see Alternative #8 above)
4.	Dredging at 10 ppm with solidification and CDF disposal	\$308.7	Sediments with greater than 10 ppm PCBs in both the upper and lower harbor would be dredged and placed in CDFs. They would then receive treatment using solidification and be placed back in the CDFs for final disposal.	(see Alternative #3 above)	(see Alternative #3 above)
5.	Dredging at 10 ppm with solvent extraction and CDF disposal	\$540.3	Sediments with greater than 10 ppm PCBs in both the upper and lower harbor would be dredged and placed in CDFs. They would then receive treatment using solvent extraction and be placed back in the CDFs for final disposal.	(see Alternative #3 above)	(see Alternative #3 above)
6.	Dredging at 10 ppm with incineration and CDF disposal	\$582.3	Sediments with greater than 10 ppm PCBs in both the upper and lower harbor would be dredged and placed in CDFs. They would then receive treatment using incineration and be placed back in the CDFs for final disposal.	(see Alternative #3 above)	(see Alternative #3 above)

(1) These risks do not include seafood consumption risks. The fishing ban would be gradually lifted depending on specie and tissue PCB level.

New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site

Cost of Alternatives for ROD 2



ATTACHMENT 1

New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site Community Forum

AGREEMENT

The New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site Community Forum has been meeting since April 25, 1995 on issues related to the second record of decision (ROD 2) for remediation of contamination in New Bedford Harbor. After extensive review and discussion of the agencies' original proposal, the Forum met on May 1, 1996, and agreed to the following:

1. The PCBs and heavy metals presently contaminating the Acushnet River and New Bedford Harbor need to be removed from the river and harbor. The health and ecological risks associated with their continued presence are unacceptable.

2. The Forum prefers the treatment and destruction of the PCBs and the treatment of heavy metals rather than their storage and containment in long-term or permanent confined disposal facilities (CDFs) along the shores of the river and harbor.

3. While the use of CDFs does not destroy the PCBs and heavy metals, the Forum agrees that the employment of CDFs for storage and containment of the dredged and contaminated sediments accomplishes their removal and reduces the risks to human health and the environment.

4. The Forum acknowledges that the use of CDFs for permanent storage and containment of the dredged and contaminated sediments, however, involves some risks associated with leakage and the long-term integrity of the

CDFs, as well as issues of long-term cost allocation for their maintenance.

5. The Forum also acknowledges that existing treatment alternatives for such a large amount of sediments with such high levels of contamination are neither technically nor economically feasible at this time. If, pursuant to paragraphs 6 and 7, below, treatment becomes technically and economically feasible, the agencies commit themselves to seek funding for such treatment, consistent with Superfund legislation. The agencies further commit to make public the results of, and reasons for, any such decision.

6. The agencies are committed to a continuing literature review of the applicability and feasibility of treatment alternatives developed during the ROD 1 (Hot Spot) remediation process for the materials stored in the CDFs. After the signing of the ROD 2 (Upper and Lower Harbor), the agencies will continue the literature review of viable treatment alternatives during the early stages of the Phase 2 remediation, before the CDFs are capped. The Forum agrees that one of the treatment alternatives to be reviewed will be bioremediation.

7. If no technically and economically feasible alternative treatment is developed prior to the capping of the CDFs, the agencies pledge to conduct a literature review, no less frequently than every five years, or more frequently upon receipt of significant new information, of developments in alternative technologies

that, in the future, may become technically and economically feasible for application to the stored materials.

8. The Forum supports the utilization of some portion of the remediation CDFs to store navigational dredging spoils from the harbor.

9. The Forum agrees with EPA's proposal to use CDFs A, B, C, and D (formerly, respectively, the northern portion of CDF 1B, the southern portion of CDF 1B, CDF 1A and CDF 7) for the storage and containment of contaminated sediments and other navigational dredging spoils from New Bedford Harbor for which there may be adequate capacity. See the attached map for the location of the CDFs that are the subject of this agreement. ROD 2 will expressly require that the final configuration of CDFs A and B be so designed and engineered as to ensure the integrity of the salt marshes and to maintain normal intertidal circulation and water levels in the Acushnet River.

10. The Forum urges all governmental agencies, federal, state and local, with a role in either remedial or navigational dredging in New Bedford Harbor to work closely together to coordinate and expedite their actions in meeting all of the many regulatory and permit issues involved in the dredging operation.

11. During remedial design and construction, EPA agrees to work cooperatively with persons whose property abuts the CDFs to minimize disruption of land use and to plan for future use of CDFs.

12. The Forum is committed to full implementation of the established process for identifying

and preserving any Native American artifacts in the Acushnet River that may be affected by the dredging conducted during ROD 2 operations.

13. There is a strong commitment on the part of all its members to the continuance of the Forum to participate actively in the development of the engineering design of any CDFs, the design and implementation of monitoring plans, the planning and implementation of dredging activity; the development of appropriate uses for any capped CDFs, the review of alternative treatment developments, and all other aspects of the development of the ROD 2 remedy.

Signatures of Forum representatives are attached on separate signature pages.

mediation/bedford/p2sgre2.doc

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ATTACHMENT 2

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC

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ROOM 309
NEW BEDFORD, MA 02740
(508) 999-6462

222 MILLIKEN PLACE
THIRD FLOOR
FALL RIVER, MA 02721
(508) 674-3551

89 MAIN STREET
BRIDGEWATER, MA 02324
(508) 697-9403

May 6, 1996

The Honorable Carol Browner
Administrator
E.P.A.
401 M Street S.W.
Washington, DC 20460

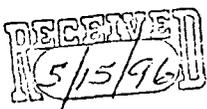
Dear Administrator Browner,

I am writing to express my strong support for the proposed Record of Decision (ROD) for the next phase of the New Bedford Harbor Superfund Cleanup. It is my understanding that the officials at the EPA Region I office have already agreed to this plan and are waiting for approval from the main office in Washington before moving forward.

At present, EPA's proposed site remediation plan for the Harbor is to dredge only those sediments with PCBs in excess of 50 ppm. Under this plan, the sediment to be dredged in the Harbor would not include any of the sediment necessary for navigational maintenance dredging which the Harbor also needs. However, this maintenance dredge area is actually physically located within the boundaries of the New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site. For a host of policy and financial reasons, I believe that we should take advantage of this correspondence between the area requiring maintenance dredging, which contains lower levels of contamination, and the area requiring remedial action by integrating the maintenance dredging into the New Bedford Harbor remedial action. Fortunately, this course of action is allowed under the "Enhancement Remedy" provisions of 40 CFR 300.515(f) of the National Contingency Plan (NCP).

From the environmental standpoint, including the maintenance dredging area as a part of the remedial action will result in the cleanup of significant, additional amounts of contaminated sediments sooner than would otherwise be possible. This expanded scope of remediation, which would remove additional hazardous sediment and reduce potential exposure to the contaminants, would clearly "enhance" the environmental and public health benefits resulting from the remedy. Moreover, the maintenance dredging will work in concert with the City's own plans for developing New Bedford Harbor for public and economic uses, thereby mitigating some of the financial burden associated with the remedy. In addition, the City's own interest in maintenance dredging will help expedite the process of identifying and agreeing upon potential disposal sites for dredged materials with lower levels of contamination and solutions to other issues associated with the disposal of the dredged sediment.

This project is extremely important to me, and I hope it will receive your approval. In the future, I'm available for any conversation you may want to have on this matter.



Barney Frank

BARNEY FRANK