

# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Executive Office of Environmental Affairs

Department of Environmental Quality Engineering

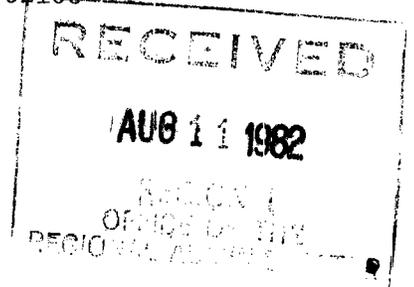
One Winter Street, Boston 02108

ANTHONY D. CORTESE, Sc. D.  
Commissioner



SDMS DocID 000226019

August 11, 1982



Mr. Lester A. Sutton, P.E.  
EPA Regional Administrator  
EPA Region I  
JFK Building  
Boston, MA 02203

Re: New Bedford Harbor and  
Acushnet River Estuary  
CERCLA Request

Dear Mr. Sutton:

On July 23, 1982, New Bedford Harbor and the Acushnet River Estuary were designated eligible for priority action under Superfund.

The enclosed preliminary Phase I Funding Allocation Request has been developed by the Department in an effort to begin the Superfund process. This funding request, in conjunction with a Remedial Action Master Plan (RAMP) to be developed through an EPA contract, will serve as the basis for comprehensive environmental assessment of the area. Please contact Richard Chalpin at 292-5630 if you require additional information.

Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,

*Anthony D. Cortese*

Anthony D. Cortese, Sc.D.  
Commissioner

ADC/RC/jp

New Bedford  
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226019

AUG 11 1982



NEW BEDFORD HARBOR AND ACUSHNET ESTUARY  
SUPERFUND---PHASE I FUNDING ALLOCATION REQUEST

1. Site Security

This is necessary to protect the health and safety of local residents; it would aid in the enforcement of the ban on commercial and recreational fishing (shellfish, finfish, eels, etc.) from areas contaminated with PCBs (the New Bedford Harbor and adjoining section of Buzzards Bay). This would cover the cost for warning signs, fencing, and for water and land (state natural resource officers) patrol for 3 years. \$600,000

2. Community Relations Plan

A coordinator at the local and state government level would be appointed to disseminate public information and to work with city and state environmental groups, and the Legislature. The activities would consist of press conferences and press releases, town meetings, etc. 90,000

3. Surface Water, Sediment, and Marine Life Investigation

The purpose of surface water sampling is to define the surface water, sediment, and marine life quality and conditions resulting from the contamination. Surface water and sediment samples obtained would be subject to either complete or partial analyses. Complete analysis refers to a priority pollutant scan, while the partial analysis includes PCBs and other constituents previously identified to be present, either during past sampling efforts or during this program.

- a. Sediments-combination of grab samples and core samples to define areal and depth of contaminated sediments for PCBs, heavy and trace metals, and organic pollutants. \$275,000
  - b. Surface water-to define the level of contamination, the types of contaminants, and the migration of contaminants. 125,000
  - c. Marine Life
    - 1) Analyses of shellfish (mussels, oysters, etc.), lobsters, finfish, and eels (the most intensely contaminated organisms analyzed to date); the analyses would determine the levels of contamination, and the movement of the contaminants in marine life. 150,000
    - 2) Evaluation of bioconcentration of PCBs from sediments and water column; this would determine the intake levels of marine life with respect to the contaminants 150,000
4. Geophysical Investigation
- Geophysical investigations would be undertaken to define and refine information on the sources of contamination, the levels of contamination, and the migration of contaminants in the New Bedford area. This would include soil borings, soil and groundwater sampling and analyses in the New Bedford Landfill, the Sullivan Ledge area, and the Fairhaven Marsh Island in the Estuary, all of which contain high concentrations of PCBs and possibly heavy metals and organic pollutants. 800,000

5. Air Monitoring

Air monitoring would be undertaken to define the quality of the air in the area of the Harbor, the New Bedford Landfill, Sullivan Ledge, and Marsh Island. It would include sampling for particulates and for gases, as well as PCBs.

\$400,000

6. Human Health Effects (See DPH submittal)

1,033,000

7. Historical Generator and Waste Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Information

A comprehensive history of the area would be developed in order to determine the types of waste generated by local industries and active or abandoned waste treatment, storage, or disposal areas. The primary focus would be on PCBs. The site history would include at a minimum:

1. Types and quantities of hazardous waste generated by past and present manufacturing processes by local industries.
2. Past and present waste treatment, storage and disposal practices.
3. Locations both on and off the sites of waste treatment, storage and disposal operations would be assessed. Aerial photographic interpretation would be a major element of this task.

50,000

8. Safety and Health Plan

The purpose of this task is to develop a generic safety and health plan for engineers and scientists in the field who would be doing sample collection and field investigations at suspect areas. Minimum levels of personnel protection would be established, as well as decontamination procedures.

10,000