

COM/Electric

Commonwealth Electric Company
2421 Cranberry Highway
Wareham, Massachusetts 02571
Telephone (508) 291-0950

Superfund Records Center

SITE: New Bedford

BREAK: 04.01

OTHER: 46271

CERTIFIED MAIL #P346-784-216

March 27, 1997

Mr. David Dickerson
Remedial Project Manager
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region 1
John F. Kennedy Federal Building
Boston, MA 02203-0001



SDMS DocID **46271**

Re: EPA's Proposed Cleanup Plan for New Bedford Harbor

Dear Mr. Dickerson:

I am writing to you to request a meeting to discuss the Environmental Protection Agency's ("EPA") Proposed Cleanup Plan for New Bedford Harbor and the Acushnet River. As you will recall, Commonwealth Electric Company ("COM/Electric") submitted formal, written comments to you on the Proposed Cleanup Plan in a letter from me dated January 30, 1997. I then sent a follow-up letter, dated February 18, 1997, which included a drawing showing COM/Electric's existing and proposed electrical facilities on a scaled aerial photo. COM/Electric remains very interested in working with the EPA to develop a final cleanup plan for this area and, as such, would like to schedule a meeting with you to discuss the information we provided in our comments on the Proposed Cleanup Plan.

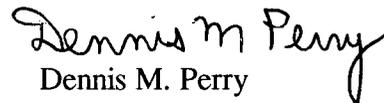
The timing of the resolution of this matter has become more critical to COM/Electric. COM/Electric is currently pursuing a number of permits that will be required in order to construct a new 115 kV transmission line from its Acushnet Substation in Acushnet, Massachusetts to its Pine Street Substation in New Bedford, Massachusetts. Most notably, COM/Electric has petitioned the Massachusetts Energy Facilities Siting Board ("EFSB") for approval to construct the line, a portion of which is planned to lay on the bottom of the Acushnet River within the cable corridor shown on the map provided in my February 18, 1997 correspondence. This transmission line is needed in order for COM/Electric to continue to provide a reliable source of electricity to the downtown area of New Bedford. It is therefore imperative to COM/Electric that a cleanup plan be developed in a timely fashion to provide a higher degree of certainty in the EFSB approval process for the construction of COM/Electric's new transmission line. Resolution of the plan for the cleanup of the New Bedford Harbor and Acushnet River will be needed during the application process for other permits required for the project which will be made in the near future, as well.

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COM/Electric appreciates the opportunity it has been provided by the EPA in the past to be involved in the development of a cleanup plan for this area. We feel it is imperative that the parties continue our discussions in this regard and we remain committed to working with the EPA in developing a remedy that meets our mutual objectives.

Since my February 18, 1997 correspondence, I have tried to reach you several times by telephone with no success. I would appreciate it if you would contact me at (508) 291-0950, extension 3964 at your earliest convenience so that we may schedule a meeting to discuss this matter. I will also continue to try to contact you by telephone. However, I wanted to express in writing COM/Electric's desire to resolve this matter as quickly as possible in order to allow for the timely construction of its new transmission line. I look forward to hearing from you.

Very truly yours,


Dennis M. Perry
Project Manager