

SIERRA CLUB • New England Chapter

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Mr. William Cass, Director
Division of Hazardous Waste
1 Winter Street
Boston MA

Mr. New Bedford
Break 4/1
Date 4/7/23

Dear Mr. Cass:

The New England Sierra Club has been following the issue of the clean-up of the New Bedford Superfund sites with intense interest for several years. On June 26, I attended a meeting in New Bedford at which Gerry Sotolongo of EPA presented an update to citizens on the development of alternative remedial action plans for the "hot spots" in the Acushnet River.

Two of the potential alternatives, as you are probably aware, involve dredging of the contaminated material from the river for "containment," either at a near-shore site or at an upland site "somewhere in Massachusetts." I asked Gerry at that point whether the designation of either site would have to go through the established Massachusetts process for siting hazardous waste facilities and whether the site would have to meet the criteria in Phase II of the Massachusetts regulations. Gerry responded that this question had been posed to DEQE, but that at that time, no response had been received.

We would like to know what DEQE's response is. The answer to this question will obviously be a major factor in the ongoing discussion of EPA's proposals for clean-up alternatives which will probably be taking place in August and early fall.

Thank you very much for your attention to this matter.

Very sincerely,

Priscilla Chapman

Priscilla Chapman
Executive Director, New England Sierra Club

cc: Tony Cortese, DEQE Commissioner
Michael Deland, Regional Administrator, EPA
Gerry Sotolongo, EPA
Gil Woolley, New England Sierra Club Hazardous Waste Chair