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Comment on CAD Cells in Acushnet Estuary Superfund Site

Bob Kelley o NBH Comments

09/10/2010 04:18 PM

David Dickerson
USEPA, OSRR07-4
5 Post Office Square - Suite 100
Boston, MA 02109-3912

Dear Mr. Dickerson:

These comments are in response to the *Lower Harbor Confined Aquatic Disposal (CAD) Cell Draft Explanation of Significant Differences* (2010 Draft CAD Cell ESD), released June 2010. That report proposes that 300,000 cubic yards of PCB contaminated sediment be buried below the riverbed in CAD cells.

This is supposed to expedite and economize the remediation process of the Acushnet Estuary Superfund site. Please, do not put future generations in the Greater New Bedford area at jeopardy just to save some money and time.

Please, continue to removing the PCBs from the Acushnet River! If the PCB contaminants are not completely removed, the threat will remain. Burying them in a CAD cell in the river would not be removing the threat. CAD cells are clearly a step in the wrong direction. The PCB must be removed!

Just have the EPA carry out the *original plans* to clean the Acushnet Estuary. Remove the PCB contaminants from the Greater New Bedford area; transport them to a Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) licensed facility, presently, in Michigan.

It is discouraging that the US government would renege on the commitment to clean up the area for the people of Greater New Bedford. Trying to leave PCBs that were dumped in the Acushnet Estuary in the 1940's -1970's (partly as a result of government contracts) amounts to a giant step backwards.

Just as our local veterans gave their all for the protection of their children and their property, it is reasonable to expect the same from the government to protect their children from this threat now. Their children's children deserve an environment that is as safe as anywhere else. Please remove the PBCs no matter what it costs or how long it takes.

Passionately,

Robert B. Kelley
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