



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
 EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS  
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 Lieutenant Governor

Superfund Records Center  
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IAN A. BOWLES  
 Secretary

LAURIE BURT  
 Commissioner

September 10, 2010

Mr. Curt Spalding, Regional Administrator  
 U. S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 1  
 5 Post Office Square – Suite 100  
 Boston, MA 02109-3912

Re: MassDEP Support of New Bedford Harbor ESD

Dear Regional Administrator Spalding:

The New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site is the Commonwealth's priority Superfund Site. The continued remediation at New Bedford Harbor is an important environmental project for both the surrounding communities and the Commonwealth as a whole.

The U.S. EPA Region 1 has recently proposed a change to the remedy at this Site. This change is being proposed through an Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD) and involves changing the disposal of 300,000 cubic yards of less contaminated sediments from the current off-site disposal to on-site Confined Aquatic Disposal. The implementation of this proposed ESD would decrease the estimated time to complete the remedy from 45 years to less than 40 years, thereby reducing potential exposures and the health and environmental risks associated with the contaminated sediments that await cleanup in the harbor. MassDEP supports U.S. EPA's efforts to accelerate the cleanup of New Bedford Harbor. Pending our review of any issues raised during the public comment period, the MassDEP expects to fully support the proposed ESD.

MassDEP appreciates the U.S. EPA's continuing efforts to remediate this Site.

Sincerely,

Gary Moran  
 Deputy Commissioner MassDEP

This information is available in alternate format. Call Donald M. Gomes, ADA Coordinator at 617-556-1057, TDD# 1-866-539-7622 or 1-617-574-6868.

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