



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION I

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13.114  
Superfund Records Center

SITE: NEW BEDFORD

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May 1, 1997

Martin Manley,  
Executive Director  
Harbor Development Commission  
102 Popes Island  
New Bedford, MA 02740

RE: New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site

Dear Mr. Manley:

I am writing this letter at the request of Attorney Irene Schall to address concerns about the future use of the Herman Melville Shipyard as it relates to EPA's proposed remedy for the New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site.

As you know, EPA issued a Proposed Plan in November, 1997 which includes dredging of both the upper and lower harbor and storage of the dredged sediments in confined disposal facilities (CDF) located along the New Bedford shoreline. Included in the Plan was a map showing the proposed locations for the CDFs, one of which is adjacent to or includes the Herman Melville Shipyard, CDF D. I understand that this particular piece of property is owned by the City of New Bedford and administered by the Harbor Development Commission.

EPA is currently in the process of reviewing all of the comments received on the Proposed Plan during the public comment period which closed on February 3, 1997. Our final decision on the remedy will be embodied in a Record of Decision (ROD) which we expect to issue in the Fall of 1997.

Once the ROD is issued, the first step in the cleanup process is to design and construct the CDFs and associated water treatment facilities. Dredging need not wait until all the CDFs are constructed; the process can be staged so that dredging begins once the first CDF is ready to accept sediments. The final location and order of construction of the CDFs will not be finalized until the remedy design is completed. Until that time, EPA does not expect it will need significant access to potential CDF locations.



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Martin Manley  
May 1, 1997  
Page 2

If you have any further questions, please call me at (617) 565-1156  
or Dave Dickerson at (617) 573-5735.

Sincerely,

*Cynthia Catri*

Cynthia Catri  
Enforcement Counsel

cc: Dave Dickerson  
Irene Schall, Esq.