

MORE VIEWS

The Standard Times New Bedford, MA

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2010 ■ Page A5

Superfund Records Center

EPA Extends the Comment Period for the Proposed Use of a Confined Aquatic Disposal Cell to Support Cleanup at the New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site

The U.S. EPA is extending the public comment period to September 24 on its proposal to modify the 1998 Record of Decision for the upper and lower harbor cleanup to include use of a confined aquatic disposal (CAD) cell. This CAD cell is proposed for the lower harbor for containment of approximately 300,000 cubic yards of lower-level PCB-contaminated sediment that requires cleanup through EPA's Superfund program.

This proposed change is outlined in a draft Explanation of Significant Difference (ESD) document. This document remains in draft form until public comments and a response by EPA is officially recorded. This ESD will be available as part of the New Bedford Harbor Site's Administrative Record file at the reference desk of the New Bedford Public Library, 613 Pleasant Street, New Bedford, MA (508-991-6280), at the EPA Region 1 Records Center, 5 Post Office Square, Boston, MA (617-918-1440) and on the harbor cleanup website at www.epa.gov/nc/nbh.

EPA's evaluation of CAD cells, including environmental monitoring of navigational CAD cells already located in New Bedford Harbor as well as short and long term computer modeling of water and air quality, has concluded that CAD cells are a protective and permanent approach for disposal of this sediment. Three CAD cells for disposal of navigational sediment have been used successfully to date in the same area as the proposed Superfund CAD cell, and this approach has been used successfully at other Superfund sites around the country. Overall EPA's evaluation concludes that the time and cost to protectively complete the upper and lower harbor cleanup can be reduced significantly through the use of a CAD cell.

Comments on the draft ESD will be accepted through September 24, 2010 and can be submitted either in writing or via email.

You may also mail written comments to

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

Send email comments to: NBH-Comments@epamail.epa.gov

EPA holds monthly informational public meetings at the main New Bedford Public Library. Presentations and meeting information can be found at the harbor cleanup website at www.epa.gov/nc/nbh.

