



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION I
J. F. KENNEDY FEDERAL BUILDING, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02203

M...
55692

NEW BEDFORD SUPERFUND SITE
EPA PROGRESS AND PLANS
JULY 1984

U.S. v. AVX Original
Litigation Document

Fast-Track Feasibility Study

Screening and Evaluation of PCB "Hot Spot" Remedial Alternatives:

- o **Progress** - The initial draft report of the fast-track feasibility study has been completed and is being reviewed by EPA. Five remedial action alternatives were evaluated: 1) a no-action alternative; 2) a sediment isolation alternative which does not require dredging; 3) a sediment dredging alternative which sediments deposited in an unlined disposal site in the harbor area; 4) a sediment dredging alternative with sediments deposited in a lined disposal site in the harbor area; and 5) a sediment dredging alternative with sediments deposited in an upland disposal site.
- o **Plans** - The draft report of the fast-track feasibility study will be released for Federal and State agency review during the second week of July. An executive summary of this report will be distributed to the public around the end of July. Public distribution of the full report is scheduled for mid-August, at which time a public meeting will be held.

Evaluation of Potential PCB Disposal Sites:

- o **Progress** - A report on the initial screening of potential disposal sites has been released to the State. The purpose of this screening is to determine whether suitable sites for the disposal of sediments are available in the New Bedford area. Those sites which may be suitable are ranked according to preference. EPA and the state will jointly oversee the selection of any onsite disposal site. (Sites within the harbor area are considered to be "onsite.") Under Superfund, it is the State's responsibility to provide for offsite disposal if necessary; a number of upland sites (considered "offsite") in the New Bedford area have been considered in this report.
- o **Plans** - The State will determine whether the recommended upland sites are suitable for the disposal of PCBs. If so, this task will continue with more intensive field studies of the sites. If not, this task will end.

Overall Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Studies (RI/FS)

PCB Transport Model and Harbor Sampling:

- o **Progress** - Comments from NUS, EPA's consultant, and EPA on a detailed work plan were given to the team headed by Battelle's New England Research Laboratory. Battelle is now responding to the comments on the detailed work plan.
- o **Plans** - A meeting has been scheduled at EPA Headquarters to discuss contractual issues. Once these issues are resolved, the first sampling of the harbor should take place in late July or early August.

Studies of Sub-Sites:

- o **Progress** - The following plans were completed for the investigation of Sullivan's Ledge: Health and Safety Plan, Site Operations Plan, Quality Assurance Plan, and Sampling and Analysis Plan. Requests for bids on drilling were also issued.
- o **Plans** - The geophysical investigation (investigation of ground conditions) for Sullivan's Ledge is scheduled for July. Test pits (shallow holes dug with backhoes) will be dug and samples will be taken in late July. Investigations of other potentially contaminated sites are also scheduled for July.

Groundwater Investigation:

- o **Progress** - Comments have been received and are being incorporated into a report on the geology, groundwater supply and groundwater use in the New Bedford area.
- o **Plans** - The report will be finalized and made available for public review by the end of July.

Community Relations:

- o **Progress** - 26,000 copies of a fact sheet entitled, "PCBs and New Bedford Harbor - Clarifying the Issues" were distributed to schools in the New Bedford area.
- o **Plans** - A Portuguese version of the fact sheet will be produced in July. EPA will meet with the Coalition for Bay Cleanup, a citizens' group interested in the PCB contamination. The group is actively seeking new members. For more information contact Karen Walega at (617) 995-3780. Public meetings will be planned to explain the results of the fast-track feasibility study and accept public comments on the recommendations of the study.