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TO: Interested Citizens
FROM: Gerard Sotolongo, EPA Project Officer
SUBJECT: New Bedford Superfund Site

Attached is the first in a series of informational mailings summarizing EPA actions at the New Bedford Superfund site.

Please note a public meeting will be held March 8, 1984, at 7 p.m. at the Whaler Motor Inn, 800 Hathaway Road, New Bedford. Topics will include:

- Overview of PCB problem
- Recent EPA and state Department of Environmental Quality Engineering actions
- Update on proposed health study
- Timetable for Superfund studies
- Questions, comments from public
- Future public input

Please direct any questions or comments to:

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NEW BEDFORD SUPERFUND SITE
EPA PROGRESS AND PLANS
FEBRUARY 1984

Fast-Track Feasibility Study

Progress to Date:

- A list of possible ways to deal with the PCB "hot spots" in the Acushnet River north of the Coggeshall Street Bridge has been developed. The possible actions have gone through an initial screening to see which can be used successfully at New Bedford. The draft report will be made available for public comment this spring.
- A working group has been set up with the Interagency Task Force to deal with decisions about policy or permitting. The Task Force consists of members of local, state, and federal agencies involved with the New Bedford Site.
- A study has been started to locate possible sites where contaminated sediments dredged from the river and the harbor could be disposed. The draft study will be made available for public comment this spring.

Plans for February:

- The list of possible ways of dealing with the PCB hot spots will go through a detailed review to determine the cost and effectiveness of each method.
- A meeting will be held with the EPA and the Interagency Task Force to discuss study progress.

Overall Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS)

Progress to Date:

- The Remedial Investigation will define the extent of contamination at the site and the Feasibility Study will evaluate alternatives for long-term cleanup. This will be more comprehensive than the Fast-Track Feasibility Study, which will focus only on the PCB "hot spots".
- A Work Plan was approved by the EPA. This Work Plan covers the scope of work, budget, and schedule for the New Bedford RI/FS. In January the EPA gave authorization to proceed with the work.
- A Health and Safety Plan and a Quality Assurance/Quality Control Plan for the RI/FS are almost finished.
- Subcontractors are being chosen to perform some of the tasks of the RI/FS. The PCB Transport Modeling Task is being given first priority. The purpose of the PCB Transport Model is to provide technical information on the distribution, movement, and fate of PCBs and heavy metals in the environment and to predict the effectiveness of cleanup alternatives.
- A study has been started to investigate groundwater resources and groundwater use in the region.

Plans for February:

- The Health and Safety Plan and the Quality Assurance/Quality Control Plan will be finished.
- Subcontractors will be chosen and work will start on additional tasks. These tasks include the PCB transport model, a computerized data management system, and an investigation of Sullivan's Ledge.
- Work will continue on the tasks currently in progress.