



U.S. Department of Justice

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United States Attorney
District of Massachusetts

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May 7, 1985

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MAY 10 1985

REGION I
OFFICE OF REGIONAL COUNSEL

Re: U.S. v. AVX, et al.
C.A. No. 83-3882-Mc

Dear Mr. Cheeseman:

Enclosed please find Work Assignment Status Reports prepared by NUS Corporation for the months of November, 1984 to March, 1985.

Very truly yours,

WILLIAM F. WELD
United States Attorney

By: _____
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U.S. v. AVX Original Litigation Document

RAC

WORK ASSIGNMENT STATUS REPORT
EPA CONTRACT NO. 68-01-6699, MOD. NOS. 28, 53, AND 106
WORK ASSIGNMENT NO. 28-1L43.2
NEW BEDFORD SITE
BRISTOL COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS
NUS PROJECT NO. S725 (0725)

Activity: Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study

% Completed: 19

1. Progress this Period - November 1984:

- Comments on the fast-track Feasibility Study (FS) (Task 16) have been received as of the original closing date of November 15, 1984. Work is in progress to respond to these comments and to inquiries of the potentially responsible parties. A newly-approved biodegradation process is being assessed as an additional remedial action alternative.
- Drilling was completed at Sullivan's Ledge (Task 10). Sampling and chemical screening were also performed to support the drilling program. Field data is being assessed to identify additional study needs.
- Battelle initiated the November sampling in Buzzards Bay and New Bedford Harbor. Other work on the modeling and sampling tasks (Tasks 8, 9) continues, including the experimental support program and model development and revision.
- The bid package for the laboratory analysis program (Task 19) was completed and issued. Bids have been received and are being reviewed relative to the scope and budget of the overall modeling and sampling programs.
- Work progressed on several other tasks, including the hydrogeologic study of the New Bedford Landfill (Task 11), the final Groundwater Resources report (Task 13), and the Investigation of Undisclosed Sources and Sites (Task 14).

2. Problems Resolved:

- A decision was made to interrupt the drilling program at Sullivan's Ledge in order to assess the groundwater and chemical sampling data collected to date. By doing so, the number and location of any additional monitoring wells will be optimized.
- At the request of Woods Hole, Battelle requested and received permission to collect additional tide and current data during the November sampling program. This was judged to be necessary to properly calibrate the hydrodynamic model in the critical outer harbor zone.

3. Anticipated Problem Areas and Recommended Solutions:

- It is likely that additional wells at Sullivan's Ledge will require access across the golf course. The use of portable drilling equipment that can be hand-carried to minimize the risk of property damage is proposed.
- The bids received for the laboratory analysis in Task 19 are significantly higher than budgeted, and additional funds may be necessary. The Remedial Planning Office (REMPO), the EPA, and the modeling team will meet in the near future to determine if a reduced scope of laboratory work can be pursued without affecting the overall reliability of the model and feasibility study (FS).
- Litigation-related activities continue to be pursued, which could impact the schedule for both the fast-track and overall Feasibility Studies.

4. Deliverables Submitted: None

5. Upcoming Events:

- REMPO personnel will meet on December 10, 1984, to address the technical, contractual, and cost issues relative to the laboratory analysis bids.
- A visit will be made to appropriate laboratories as part of the review and selection process for the laboratory analysis of Task 19.
- Any additional drilling at Sullivan's Ledge will be completed as soon as possible after a final decision is made regarding the number and location of additional wells.

6. Activities Planned:

- Work will continue on responses to comments received on the fast-track FS, and a Responsiveness Summary will be prepared.
- Upon completion of additional drilling at Sullivan's Ledge, surveying and field sampling will take place and analysis of hydrogeologic and chemical data will proceed.
- The initial sampling of wells at the New Bedford Landfill will take place coincidentally with the sampling of wells at Sullivan's Ledge.
- Battelle will conduct a sampling program under storm conditions.
- The remaining technical, contractual, and cost issues relative to the laboratory analysis will be resolved and a contractor will be selected and procured for the work.

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- Various activities of other tasks will continue as described above.

7. Key Personnel Changes: None

8. Subcontracting:

M & M Enterprises, and its subcontractor Hurdis Drilling, completed their contractual obligations at Sullivan's Ledge. A new solicitation will be required to complete any additional work at the site.

9. Travel:

- On November 5, 1984: The REMPO Project Manager and a staff member met at EPA with the Regional Site Project Officer (RSPO) and various State and Federal government lawyers to review both the fast-track FS and the overall RI/FS for New Bedford.
- November 6-7, 1984: The same REMPO personnel visited Woods Hole project personnel to discuss the progress and plans for the collection of physical oceanographic data. They also visited the Sullivan's Ledge Site to resolve several technical and contractual issues with respect to the drilling and groundwater monitoring efforts.
- November 13, 1984: The REMPO Project Manager accompanied EPA personnel to Houston, Texas to discuss the newly approved biodegradation process with the developers.
- November 15, 1984: The REMPO Project Manager met with EPA personnel and the Potentially Responsible Parties in Boston to discuss the technical aspects of the fast-track FS.

10. Contract Laboratory Program: No Involvement

11. Schedule Changes:

Schedule changes are expected due to several of the aforementioned items. These changes will be documented in a detailed Status Report currently being prepared by REMPO, and will be noted in the Status Report for December.