



REGION 1

BOSTON, MA 02109

Via Electronic Mail/Dated as of the date signed below

Matt Calacone
Senior Project Manager
General Electric Company
1 Plastics Avenue
Pittsfield, MA 01201

Re: Conditional Approval of GE's August 8, 2025, *Rare Species Survey Proposal for Woods Pond Spur Rail Transload Area*; GE-Pittsfield/Housatonic River Site, Rest of River

Dear Mr. Calacone:

On August 8, 2025, the General Electric Company (GE) submitted to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) a document titled *Rare Species Survey Proposal for Woods Pond Spur Rail Transload Area* (the "Proposal"). GE submitted the Proposal in accordance with EPA's conditional approval letter for the *Pre-Design Investigation Work Plan for Rail Transload Areas in Reaches 5 and 6* dated July 24, 2025. The Proposal is subject to the terms and conditions specified in the Consent Decree that was entered in the U.S. District Court on October 27, 2000 and the Revised Final Permit dated December 16, 2020.

Pursuant to Section XV of the Consent Decree, EPA, after providing reasonable opportunity for review and comment by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the State of Connecticut, conditionally approves the Proposal subject to the following conditions.

General Conditions:

1. GE shall include, as a part of the additional surveys being conducted under the Proposal, surveys for the following federally listed species: northern long-eared bat, tricolored bat, and monarch butterfly. These surveys shall encompass the proposed Woods Pond spur area as well as adjacent habitats and can be completed at the same time as those surveys required under Section 10 (Plan for Additional Rare Species Surveys) of the *Revised Reach 6 Baseline Restoration Assessment Report*. GE shall use the site-specific Rare Butterfly and Rare Bat Survey SOPs provided in Appendix G to the *Revised Reach 6 Baseline Restoration Assessment Report* when completing this work.

EPA reserves all of its rights under the Consent Decree and GE's Revised Final Permit (December 2020), including but not limited to, the right to perform and/or require additional sampling or response actions. If there is any conflict between the Performance Standards as stated in the submittal and the Performance Standards as stated in the Consent Decree or the Revised Final Permit, the Consent Decree and/or the Revised Final Permit shall control.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at (617) 918-1049 or at CarliDorsey.Alexander@epa.gov should you have any questions on this letter.

Sincerely,
**ALEXANDER
CARLI-DORSEY**
Digitally signed by
ALEXANDER CARLI-DORSEY
Date: 2025.11.24 09:33:28
-05'00'
Alexander Carli-Dorsey
Project Manager

cc: (via electronic mail only)

Lance Hauer, GE
Kevin Mooney, GE
Rachel Leary, GE
Andrew Inglis, GE
James Bieke, Counsel for GE
Dennis Lowry, AECOM
Josh Fontaine, EPA
Richard Fisher, EPA
Lisa Danek Burke, EPA
John Kilborn, EPA
Christopher Ferry, ASRC
Thomas Czelusniak, HDR Inc.
Scott Campbell, Taconic Ridge Environmental
Izabela Zapisek, Taconic Ridge Environmental
Lattice Fuentes, U.S. Department of the Interior
Sarah Shattuck, U.S. Department of the Interior
Genette Gaffney, U.S. Department of the Interior
Benjamin Erikson, Massachusetts DEP
Christine LeBel, Massachusetts DEP
Tamara Cardona-Marek, Massachusetts DEP
Ben Guidi, Massachusetts DEP
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Traci lott, Connecticut DEEP
Carol Papp, Connecticut DEEP

*EPA Conditional Approval Letter
GE-Pittsfield/Housatonic River Site
Rare Species Survey Proposal for Woods Pond Spur Rail Transload Area*

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Lori DiBella, Connecticut Attorney Office
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Danielle Perry, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
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Massachusetts DFW
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