



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION II
26 FEDERAL PLAZA
NEW YORK NEW YORK 10276

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Mr. Stephen D. Ramsey
Vice President
Corporate Environmental Programs
General Electric Company
3135 Easton Turnpike
Fairfield, Connecticut 06431

Re: Hudson River PCBs Superfund Site

Dear Mr. Ramsey:

I appreciated the opportunity to meet with you and other representatives of the General Electric Company on July 23, 1990 to discuss the decision made by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to conduct the Reassessment Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study ("Reassessment RI/FS" or "RRI/FS") itself. I have also given careful consideration to the points you made in your letter of June 22, 1990. However, as you can well appreciate, there has been a long and contentious history of the entire Hudson River PCB contamination problem. When considering the unique circumstances of this site -- its extraordinary complexity and scope, the lengthy public controversy, the strongly expressed views by the Company as to the appropriate course of action, and the extremely large monetary and public health implications of any decision -- I believe that in this particular matter, our mutual objective for a remedy that would be met with public understanding and acceptance can best be achieved by EPA conducting the Reassessment RI/FS. We will, of course, actively seek your participation in this study.

EPA intends to conduct an RRI/FS which, to use your words, will "be a high quality product which objectively reviews the options for remediation." With respect to the planned schedule for the RRI/FS, we have reevaluated our schedule and now project that we will complete the RRI/FS by approximately the summer of 1992.

We are in the process of developing a community relations program for this site which will provide opportunities for the public and other interested parties to have input in the RRI/FS. Further, as indicated in my June 4, 1990 letter to you, we welcome you to submit the results of GE's future bioremediation pilot studies to EPA, to the extent that such results are available prior to the completion of the RRI/FS. With respect to

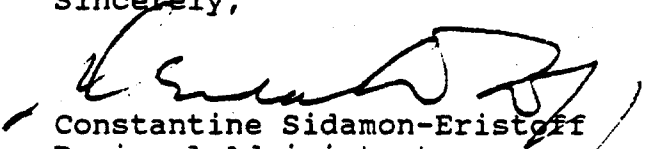
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your letter of September 18, 1990, I have forwarded it to Richard Caspe, Director of EPA Region II's Emergency and Remedial Response Division, who will respond to the issues raised therein.

It is EPA's firm belief that our conduct of the RRI/FS and our focus on bringing in all interested parties as the study proceeds will serve to minimize the potential disruption that may be associated with technical and philosophical divergence. We hope that GE will support the RRI/FS effort and participate actively through the opportunities provided. We would again request that GE advance to EPA the funds needed to perform the RRI/FS.

If you have any questions, please contact Paul Simon of the Office of Regional Counsel at (212) 264-4710.

Sincerely,



Constantine Sidamon-Eristoff
Regional Administrator

cc: Thomas Jorling, Commissioner NYSDEC
Langdon Marsh, NYSDEC
Michael O'Toole, NYSDEC
Frank Csulak, NOAA
Bill Patterson, DOI
John Claussen, GE
Kevin Holtzclaw, GE

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