

2001 10/26/83
30 ASSOCIATED STATES
N.E. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY AND HAZARDOUS WASTE
HARRISON AVENUE FIVE FLOOR
NEW YORK CITY

Hudson River
Info. Request

DocId 70620

**CERTIFIED MAIL -
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

Mr. John F. Welch, Jr.
Chief Executive Officer
General Electric Co.
3135 Easton Turnpike
Fairfield, Connecticut 06431

Re: Hudson River PCB Contamination
Hudson Falls, New York

Dear Mr. Welch:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has documented the release or threatened release of hazardous substances, pollutants and contaminants at the above-referenced site, and anticipates spending public funds at the site to conduct both a pre-design investigation, as described below, and implement remedial measures. This action will be taken by EPA pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, 42 U.S.C. §6901 et seq. ("CERCLA").

Under CERCLA, and other laws, responsible parties may be liable for all money expended by the government in taking necessary corrective actions at the site, including investigation, planning, cleanup of the site, and enforcement. Responsible parties under CERCLA include the current and past owners or operators and persons who generated the substances or were involved in the transport, treatment or the disposal of them at the site. You may have responsibility for undertaking remedial action at the five PCB remnant areas in Fort Edward, New York (see attached map for location), as well as the water supplies in Waterford, New York, since it has been documented that hazardous substances were disposed of into the Hudson River by your Fort Edward and Hudson Falls manufacturing plants during a thirty year period ending in 1977. Upon removal of the Fort Edward dam, water levels of the river dropped significantly exposing these five PCB contaminated areas.

This letter is to notify you that EPA has recently issued a draft feasibility study to evaluate the problem of PCB's in the Hudson River. This study will be finalized subsequent to the public review period which ends November 7, 1983.

2 OERR:HWSB:ROHN:IS:10/26/83			CONCURRENCES			
BY	OERR:HWSB1	OERR:HWSB	OERR:HWSB	ORC:WTS	ORC:WTS	OERR:W
SURNAME	ROHN	PAVLOU	OGG	WOODS	MUGDAN	LIBRIZZI
DATE	10/26/83	10/26	10/26	10/26/83	10/26	10/27

EPA Form 1320-1 (12-70)

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The draft feasibility study considered 36 alternative cleanup plans including a number of new PCB treatment and destruction technologies. All reasonable alternatives were considered. The recommendations in the draft study indicate that the only remedial actions that should be considered for funding under CERCLA are 1) the containment of exposed deposits of PCB's at the five contaminated remnant areas along the shoreline of the Hudson River and 2) the evaluation of the drinking water supply at Waterford, New York to determine if PCB contamination poses any potential threat to the public.

Pending finalization of the draft feasibility study, EPA plans to conduct the following activities and implement the remedial alternatives necessary to minimize the threat posed by the site to health and/or the environment.

1. A predesign sampling investigation to evaluate the degree and extent of PCB soil contamination at the five remnant areas. The investigation will include a ground survey, preparation of a topographic map, and collection of soil samples.
2. An evaluation of the drinking water supply at Waterford, New York to determine if PCB contamination poses any potential threat to the public.

Additional corrective measures that may be necessary to protect public health, welfare or the environment include, but are not necessarily limited to:

1. the design and implementation of the selected remedial action, and
2. additional monitoring to assure the effectiveness of the remedial action taken.

EPA will immediately move forward with the predesign sampling investigation and necessary remedial measures unless you notify EPA in writing within fourteen (14) calendar days from your receipt of this letter of your intent to undertake these activities as well as the design and implementation of the selected remedial action.

CONFIDENTIAL
Your letter should indicate the appropriate name, address, and telephone number for further contact with you. Where you are already involved in discussions with EPA, State or local authorities or engaged in voluntary action, you should continue that activity and report the status of those discussions or that action in your letter. Please provide a copy of your letter to any other parties involved in those discussions. Your letter should be sent to:

Ms. Robin Rohn
Hazardous Waste Site Branch
Office of Emergency and Remedial Response
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
26 Federal Plaza
New York, New York 10278

If you need further information on the nature and extent of the release or threatened release or on our determination that you may be a responsible party, you may contact Ms. Rohn at (212) 264-0106.

I hope that you will give these matters your immediate attention.

Sincerely yours,

William J. Librizzi
Director
Office of Emergency & Remedial Response

cc: Director, Office of Waste Programs Enforcement
Director, Office of Emergency & Remedial Response
Associate Enforcement Counsel - Waste
Director, Office of Solid & Hazardous Waste - NYSDEC