



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
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July 9, 2019

Ms. Brana Simon
SHPO and Executive Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, MA 02125

CONCURRENCE

8/6/19

Brana Simon
BRANA SIMON
STATE HISTORIC
PRESERVATION OFFICER
MASSACHUSETTS
HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Ms. Bettina Washington
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah)
20 Black Brook Road
Aquinnah, MA 02535

Mr. David Weeden
Interim Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe
483 Great Neck Road South
Mashpee, MA 02649

Re: Walton and Lonsbury Superfund Site (Site), Attleboro, Massachusetts
National Historic Preservation Act – Section 106 Consultation
Conclusion of Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS)

Dear Ms. Simon, Ms. Washington, and Mr. Weeden:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) listed the above-referenced Site on the National Priorities List on May 21, 2013, pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980. The Site includes the former Walton and Lonsbury facility property located at 78 North Avenue and several abutting residential properties and wetlands that are south and east of the former facility; Bliss Brook and its banks, including residential yards that border the Brook from the Paulette Lane area south to its confluence with the Bungay River; the Bungay River just upstream of its confluence with Bliss Brook; and Mechanics Pond (see Figure 1).

Pursuant to the National Historical Preservation Act, EPA initiated Section 106 consultation in October 2014 and provided notification of commencement of a fund-lead RI/FS for the Site. A copy of that letter is enclosed. At that time, EPA identified one property at the Site, the Capron House, located at 42 North Avenue, as having historic significance and was added to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) in 1978. EPA is not currently aware of any other historic or potentially historic properties or cultural

resources that could be on or in close proximity to the Site. Based on the results of the RI, which identified areas of unacceptable risk to human health and the environment, EPA has developed and evaluated several cleanup options, also referred to as alternatives, in the FS in order to mitigate such risks.

EPA intends to release this summer a proposed cleanup plan and solicit public comment on the preferred alternatives evaluated to address contaminated soil, groundwater, and surface water at the Site. The proposed Site-wide remedy likely includes: a combination of soil removal and *in-situ* soil treatment at the former Walton and Lonsbury facility property; *in-situ* treatment of shallow groundwater in the residential area behind Paulette Lane prior to its discharge to surface water at Bliss Brook; soil excavation at residential properties west of North Avenue; long-term operation and maintenance of the remedy components; institutional controls to minimize the potential for future human exposure to contamination and/or protect the integrity of the remedy; and periodic five-year reviews to assess overall protectiveness of the remedy.

EPA has also identified several properties that meet certain thresholds for more expedited cleanup under EPA's Emergency Response and Removal Program. One such property is the Capron House. As noted on Figure 2, the area of contamination proposed to be remediated at 42 North Avenue is located between the wetland boundary and flood zone AE (i.e., 1% annual chance of flooding) and would not affect the Capron House itself. Soil would be excavated down to approximately one foot below ground surface, as flooding from the adjacent wetland, which received waste discharged during the facility's operation, is believed to be the source of contamination. Contaminated soil would be disposed of at an off-site facility, and following excavation, the area would be backfilled, graded, and restored with native vegetation to control erosion and restore any altered wetland and/or floodplain habitat. Based on these facts, EPA has made the determination that excavating contaminated soil within the limits of the red hatched areas shown on Figure 2 will not adversely impact resources that are eligible for or listed on the NRHP.

For the other proposed cleanup components, after review of any comments received during the public comment period later this summer, and with concurrence by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP), EPA will document and memorialize the selected Site cleanup plan by issuing a Record of Decision (ROD). Once the ROD is finalized and signed, the Site-wide cleanup is not expected to begin for about another two years.

EPA will continue to engage in the Section 106 consultation process with you, to discuss the extent to which the remedy selected in the ROD could adversely affect any historic or potentially historic properties or cultural resources.

If you have any questions or concerns about the proposed cleanup plan or the determination of no adverse effects relative to the expedited portion of the cleanup, please contact me at 617-918-1293, or finkel.ethan@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ethan Finkel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ethan" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Finkel".

Ethan Finkel
Remedial Project Manager

Enclosures: Site Location Maps
 Section 106 Consultation Letter, dated October 2014

cc: Daniel Keefe, Chief, ME/VT/CT Superfund Section, EPA
 Karen Lumino, Remedial Project Manager, EPA
 Peter DeCambre, Senior Enforcement Counsel, EPA
 Daniel Burgo, On-Scene Coordinator, EPA
 David Buckley, Project Manager, MassDEP