



Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

## Department of Environmental Protection

Northeast Regional Office • 205B Lowell Street, Wilmington MA 01887 • 978-694-3200

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July 23, 2014

Mr. Cosmo Caterino, Section Chief  
Emergency Planning and Response Branch  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100  
Mail Code: OSR  
Boston, MA 02109

RE: **Quincy**  
175/189 Intervale St. Site  
Request for EPA Assistance

Dear Mr. Caterino:

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) respectfully requests the assistance of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for the remediation of the 175/189 Intervale St. Site in Quincy, MA. The 175/189 Intervale St. property ("Site") is a listed disposal site with MassDEP Release Tracking Number (RTN) 3-2524. Elevated concentrations of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) have been detected at levels that could pose an Imminent Hazard Condition, as defined in the Massachusetts Contingency Plan (MCP), 310 CMR 40.0321(2)(b). Soil analytical data collected to date from the Site indicates concentrations of PCBs exceed 173 mg/kg in surface soil (0"-3") and are as high as 2,300 mg/kg at 2.5'-3.0' below grade (WCSB-12). In addition to PCBs, concentrations of lead (13,100 mg/kg) and zinc (10,000 mg/kg) were present at 0"-3" below grade. The contamination at the subject Site is likely attributable to historical operations, including metal salvage operations that occurred prior to 2009. Reportedly, PCB-containing transformers were dismantled and salvaged at the Site as well.

All structures have been removed from the Site. Although the Site is currently fenced, MassDEP is concerned about the long-term effectiveness of the fence to prevent access by trespassers since conditions that could pose an Imminent Hazard are present on the subject property. In addition, site assessment data shows that contamination above MCP Reportable Concentrations extends onto at least two abutting properties.

The City of Quincy (City) acquired the property in 2009 via tax foreclosure. Using Brownfields funding from MassDevelopment, the City demolished the Site structures in 2013 and completed significant Phase II assessment activities at the Site in early 2014. MassDEP also used an \$18,000 Brownfields Coalition Grant from EPA to assist the City with assessment of groundwater conditions on the Site. Nevertheless, these resources are not sufficient to enable the

City to undertake the necessary remedial actions at the Site. Furthermore, MassDEP does not have the resources to complete the necessary remedial actions at the Site at this time.

MassDEP appreciates EPA's attention to this matter. Please contact Valerie Thompson (978-694-3348) or John Zupkus (978-694-3387) at your earliest convenience to discuss this request.

Sincerely,

  
Stephen M. Johnson, Deputy Regional Director, Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup

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Data Management, C&E/REFOTH