



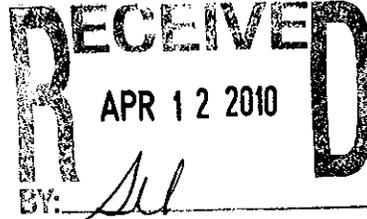
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
SOUTHEAST REGIONAL OFFICE
20 RIVERSIDE DRIVE, LAKEVILLE, MA 02347 508-946-2700

DEVAL L. PATRICK
Governor

TIMOTHY P. MURRAY
Lieutenant Governor

IAN A. BOWLES
Secretary

LAURIE BURT
Commissioner



April 9, 2010

Scott Alfonse, Director
Office of Environmental Stewardship
City of New Bedford – City Hall
133 William Street
New Bedford, Massachusetts 02740

RE: **NEW BEDFORD**
Release Tracking Number: 4-22409
New Bedford High School
IMMEDIATE RESPONSE ACTION PLAN
APPROVAL / INTERIM DEADLINE

Dear Mr. Alfonse:

The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup (MassDEP), is in receipt of an Immediate Response Action (IRA) Plan submitted for Release Tracking Number (RTN) 4-22409 related to a Condition of Substantial Release Migration (SRM) and Critical Exposure Pathway (CEP) identified on the New Bedford High School property. The IRA Plan was prepared and submitted on behalf of the City of New Bedford by TRC Environmental Corporation (TRC). MassDEP has completed its review of the IRA Plan, in an effort to determine whether it was prepared and submitted in accordance with 310 CMR 40.0000, the Massachusetts Contingency Plan (the MCP).

The IRA Plan details on-going activities related to the detection of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in both groundwater and the indoor air of a portion of the New Bedford High School. MassDEP provided oral approval to conduct assessment related IRA activities on January 29, 2010 upon notification of the Condition of SRM and the CEP.

The IRA Plan summarizes activities conducted to date and proposes additional assessment and possible mitigation measures to be conducted related to this detection. Activities to be conducted, as described in the IRA Plan, include, but are not limited to: additional subslab soil vapor, groundwater and indoor air sampling; possible CEP mitigation measures including seep mitigation, crack sealing plugging of floor drains and sink drains that are not in use, periodic running of tap water in sinks not in use, routine operation and possible adjustments of the heating, ventilation and cooling (HVAC) system in the school, and neutralization of the negative pressure situation in the mechanical room. The additional soil vapor, groundwater and indoor air sampling and the initial CEP mitigation measures are proposed to occur during the upcoming school vacation period.

Based on its review of the IRA Plan, and in accordance with 310 CMR 40.0420(9), MassDEP hereby provides approval to the City of New Bedford to implement the IRA activities as proposed in the IRA Plan. Please be advised that, pursuant to 310 CMR 40.0425(1), an IRA Status Report is due to be submitted to MassDEP 120 days from communicating to MassDEP your intent to conduct the IRA,

This information is available in alternate format. Call Donald M. Gomes, ADA Coordinator at 617-556-1057, TDD# 866-539-7622 or 617-574-6868.

DEP on the World Wide Web: <http://www.mass.gov/dep>

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which, as noted above, was January 29, 2010. As such, the first IRA Status Report is due to be submitted to MassDEP by May 30, 2010.

Please also be advised that, pursuant to 310 CMR 40.0424(2), IRA Plans are to be updated and modified, if necessary, based on the acquisition and evaluation of significant new information and data on the release, threat of release and/or new site conditions. Any significant modification of an IRA Plan must be submitted to MassDEP in writing for review and approval.

INTERIM DEADLINE

As noted above, an IRA Status Report is due to be submitted to MassDEP by May 30, 2010. Pursuant to 310 CMR 40.0420(10) (b) and (c), and pursuant to its authority to establish Interim Deadlines, MassDEP hereby requires that the next IRA Status Report be submitted to MassDEP on or before August 16, 2010. **This deadline constitutes an enforceable Interim Deadline established pursuant to 310 CMR 40.0167.**

All inquiries regarding this matter should be directed to Molly Cote at the letterhead address or by calling (508) 946-2792. All future communication regarding this matter must reference Release Tracking Number: **4-22409.**

Sincerely,



Leonard J. Pinaud, Chief
State & Federal Site Management Section
Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup

P/MC/nm

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cc: Scott W. Lang, Mayor - City of New Bedford
City of New Bedford - Health Department
Eddie Johnson, President - C.L.E.A.N.
Kim Tisa, USEPA Region 1
David Sullivan, LSP - TRC

MassDEP-SERO

ATTN: Lara Goodine, Data Entry [APWRIT, INTLET]
David Johnston, Acting Regional Director
Millie Garcia-Serrano, Deputy Regional Director
Deneen Simpson, Regional Enforcement Office