

GENERAL SITE INFORMATION, CHARACTERISTICS, AND STATUS

Project Name	<u>HOUSATONIC RIVER - PROJECT 3 (Next 1.5 Miles)</u>	ProjectID: 01-11
Last Updated:	06/01/04	
City:	Pittsfield	
County:	Berkshire	
State:	MA	
Country:	USA	
Bodies of Water:	Housatonic River (starting in Pittsfield, MA)	
US EPA Region:	I	
Status (Active, Complete, or Monitoring Only):	Active	
Date On NPL:	N/A	
ROD/ESD Date:	N/A	
Operable Unit:	N/A	
Areas of Concern (length or acres):	The next 1.5 mile segment of the East Branch of the Housatonic River, immediately downstream of the initial 0.5 mile segment (Project 01-09), from the Lyman Street Bridge in Pittsfield (MA) to the confluence with the West Branch of the river. Areas of concern include sediments and riverbanks.	
Other Characteristics of Water Body:	Varying from about 40-80 feet wide, 0.2 to 4 feet water depth. Average flow 105 cfs, in the vicinity of the GE plant. PCB levels in sediment in the 1.5 mile segment are: from 0 to 0.5 feet range from 0.04 to 1,300 ppm with an avg. of 34 ppm; from 0.5 to one foot range from 0.1 to 290 ppm with an avg. of 44 ppm; from 1 to 2 feet range from 0.05 to 110 ppm with an avg. of 25 ppm; from 2 to 3 feet range from 0.05 to 32 ppm with an avg. of 13 ppm; and below 3 feet range from 0.05 to 43 ppm with an avg. of 17 ppm (Reference A-733).	
Contaminants of Concern:	PCBs (1254/1260)	
Source of Contamination:	Historical discharges from the GE plant site.	
Contaminated Area Physical Characteristics:	Urban setting within the City of Pittsfield for the two miles from the GE plant site to the confluence with the West Branch; heavily vegetated banks; five bridges for cross streets are in the first two miles; some oxbows were straightened/channelized in the 1940s. Below the two mile segment the river widens, with significant floodplain areas in a rural setting.	
Type of Regulatory Action:	Consent Decree, pursuant to both CERCLA and RCRA. Final.	
Overall Status Summary:	<p>On October 7, 1999, representatives of the U.S. EPA; U.S. Department of Justice; the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, Office of the Attorney General and Executive Office of Environmental Affairs; the State of Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection and Office of the Attorney General; the U.S. Department of the Interior; the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; the City of Pittsfield; the Pittsfield Economic Development Authority; and the General Electric Company (GE) reached a comprehensive agreement relating to the cleanup of GE's Pittsfield facility, certain off-site properties, and the Housatonic River. The detailed terms of this agreement are incorporated in a Consent Decree which was lodged on October 7, 1999, with the United States District Court of Massachusetts, Western Division, in Springfield, Massachusetts. Following a public comment period in early 2000, the Consent Decree was entered by the Court on October 27, 2000.</p> <p>The Consent Decree provides for cleanup of the Housatonic River and associated areas, cleanup of the General Electric Plant facility, environmental restoration of the Housatonic River, compensation for natural resource damages, and government recovery of past and future</p>	

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response costs. In addition, a Definitive Economic Development Agreement among GE, the City of Pittsfield, and the Pittsfield Economic Development Authority provides for economic redevelopment of the GE Plant facility. That agreement became effective upon entry of the Consent Decree.

The Consent Decree divides the Housatonic River into three separate segments for purposes of cleanup responsibilities. For the first 0.5 mile of the East Branch, from the Newell Street Bridge to the Lyman Street Bridge in Pittsfield (MA), GE will perform source control measures and cleanup of the river sediments and bank soil. For the next 1.5 miles, from the Lyman Street Bridge to the confluence of the East and West Branches, EPA will perform cleanup of the river sediments and bank soil to the top of bank while GE is responsible for cleanup of the floodplain soil (i.e. all contaminated property beyond the top of bank). The cost to implement the removal action in the 1.5 mile segment will be shared by EPA and GE with the amount of EPA funding increasing as the overall costs increase. For the segment below the confluence, the "Rest of River," GE is responsible for implementing a remedy to be selected by EPA. In this Major Contaminated Sediment Site Database, the first 0.5 mile segment is Project 01-09, the next 1.5 miles is Project 01-11, and the Rest of River is Project 01-13.

For the 1.5 mile segment, the objective is to achieve a cleanup that is protective of human health and the environment and to prevent downstream migration of contaminants. EPA has prepared and GE has funded an Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) of the remedial alternatives for the 1.5 mile segment. The investigations conducted as part of the EE/CA included sediment and riverbank soil sampling during the period August 1998 to July 1999. An EE/CA Report was issued for public review and comment on February 11, 2000. An Addendum to the EE/CA was issued on October 4, 2000 and an Action Memo and Responsiveness Summary describing the selected remedy was issued on November 21, 2000.

The selected remedy calls for removal of an estimated 95,400 cy from the 1.5 mile segment, including an estimated 45,100 cy of sediments and 50,300 cy of bank soils. The first 50,000 cy would be disposed of in the permitted facility on the GE plant site; the remainder would be sent to offsite commercial disposal facilities. Removal will be predominantly by dry excavation, with river diversion by sheetpiling in about 0.8 mile and river diversion by pumping bypass in 0.7 mile. Implementation of the remedy is the responsibility of EPA, in accordance with the terms of the Consent Decree. The selected remedy is estimated to take 3 to 5 years to complete. Original estimated cost was \$49.7 million (present worth); current estimated cost is \$90 million.

Work began in September 2002, after GE had completed work in the first 0.5 mile segment (Project 01-09). After one year, as of September 30, 2003, a total of 27,950 cy of bank soils and sediments had been removed. This included 20,800 cy of non-TSCA material, 5,550 cy of TSCA material, and 1,600 cy of NAPL-impacted material. As of mid-May 2004, the total removed was about 36,000 cy. Completion is targeted for 2007.

Remedial Action Planned: ☐

Risk Assessment: ☐

Remedial Action Implemented: ☐

Status of Dredging ☐

PRPs: ☒

Contacts: ☒

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<i>Last Updated:</i>	06/01/04	
<i>References:</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<i>Modeling:</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<i>Fishing Advisory:</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<i>Key Conditions:</i>	capping, dedicated landfill or CDF, extended (>1 mile) river, post monitoring, property access issues, wetlands	

POTENTIALLY RESPONSIBLE PARTIES

Project Name **HOUSATONIC RIVER - PROJECT 3 (Next 1.5 Miles)**

ProjectID: 01-11

PRP Name: PRP INFORMATION NOT RELEASED

PRPID:

Street Address:

City:

State:

KEY CONTACTS

Project Name **HOUSATONIC RIVER - PROJECT 3 (Next 1.5 Miles)**

ProjectID: 01-11

Last Name: KEY CONTACT INFORMATION NOT RELEASED

Contact ID:

First Name:

Title:

Company:

Address:

City:

State:

Postal Code:

Work Phone # :

Other Phone #:

Fax # :

Email Address:

REFERENCES

Project Name HOUSATONIC RIVER - PROJECT 3 (Next 1.5 Miles)

ProjectID: 01-11

Reference Type: A

ReferenceID: 732

Title: *Fact Sheet: Upper Reach of the Housatonic River: Engineering Evaluation / Cost Analysis*

Location: AEM

Category: Site Update

Prepared by/Author: US EPA Region I

**Preparer/Author
Address:**

Prepared For: General Public

Date Published: July 2000

**Key Words and
Phrases:**

Reference Type: A

ReferenceID: 733

Title: *Final: Addendum to the Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis for the Upper Reach of the Housatonic River*

Location: AEM

Category: Remedial Action Plan/Work Plan

Prepared by/Author: Roy F. Weston, Inc

**Preparer/Author
Address:** One Wall Street
Manchester, NH 03101-1501

Prepared For: US Army Corps of Engineers, New England District

Date Published: October 4, 2000

**Key Words and
Phrases:**

Reference Type: B

ReferenceID: 743

Title: *Update Report for Massachusetts*

Location: AEM

Category: Site Update

Prepared by/Author: USACE - New England District

**Preparer/Author
Address:** 696 Virginia Road
Concord, MA 01742-2751

Prepared For: General Public

Date Published: July 31, 2002

**Key Words and
Phrases:**

REFERENCES

Project Name **HOUSATONIC RIVER - PROJECT 3 (Next 1.5 Miles)**

ProjectID: 01-11

Reference Type: B
Title: *Spotlight On: The Housatonic River*
Location: AEM
Category: Site Update
Prepared by/Author: Susan Pastor
Preparer/Author Address: US EPA Region V
Prepared For: Fox River Current
Date Published: May/June 2000
Key Words and Phrases:

ReferenceID: 863

Reference Type: B
Title: *Statewide Provisional Waterfowl Consumption Advisory*
Location: AEM
Category: Contaminated Sediments: Characteristics/Bioavailability
Prepared by/Author: The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Preparer/Author Address: Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Department of Public Health
250 Washington Street
Boston, MA 02108-4619
Prepared For: General Public
Date Published: August 1999
Key Words and Phrases:

ReferenceID: 866

Reference Type: B
Title: *Waterfowl Samples from Housatonic River Show Elevated Levels of PCBs; State Department of Public Health Issues Duck Consumption Advisory*
Location: AEM
Category: Contaminated Sediments: Characteristics/Bioavailability
Prepared by/Author: US EPA Region I
Preparer/Author Address:
Prepared For: General Public
Date Published: August 27, 1999
Key Words and Phrases:

ReferenceID: 869

REFERENCES

Project Name HOUSATONIC RIVER - PROJECT 3 (Next 1.5 Miles)

ProjectID: 01-11

Reference Type: B
Title: *Memo re: The results of the EE/CA*
Location: AEM
Category: Site Update
Prepared by/Author: Andrew Silber, GE
Preparer/Author Address:
Prepared For: Distribution
Date Published: March 24, 2000
Key Words and Phrases:

ReferenceID: 941

Reference Type: B
Title: *September 2003 Monthly Report*
Location: AEM
Category: Site Update
Prepared by/Author: US EPA Region I
Preparer/Author Address:
Prepared For: Distribution
Date Published: October 10, 2003
Key Words and Phrases:

ReferenceID: 976

Reference Type: C
Title: *\$40.7M Removal Included in EE/CA for Upper Reach of Housatonic*
Location: AEM
Category: Site Update
Prepared by/Author:
Preparer/Author Address:
Prepared For: Superfund Week
Date Published: July 28, 2000
Key Words and Phrases:

ReferenceID: 595

REFERENCES

Project Name HOUSATONIC RIVER - PROJECT 3 (Next 1.5 Miles)

ProjectID: 01-11

Reference Type: C

ReferenceID: 853

Title: *Mass.: GE Pays for Damages to River*

Location: AEM

Category: Site Update

Prepared by/Author:

Preparer/Author

Address:

Prepared For: Hazardous Waste/Superfund Week

Date Published: April 8, 2002

**Key Words and
Phrases:**

Reference Type: C

ReferenceID: 1008

Title: *Remedies Suggested for Housatonic R.; Corps Soon to Announce
\$150M Award*

Location: AEM

Category: Site Update

Prepared by/Author:

Preparer/Author

Address:

Prepared For: Superfund Week

Date Published: March 24, 2000

**Key Words and
Phrases:**

Reference Type: C

ReferenceID: 1011

Title: *As Corps Awards Housatonic Contract, Property Owners Want
More to be Done*

Location: AEM

Category: Site Update

Prepared by/Author:

Preparer/Author

Address:

Prepared For: Superfund Week

Date Published: April 14, 2000

**Key Words and
Phrases:**

REFERENCES

Project Name HOUSATONIC RIVER - PROJECT 3 (Next 1.5 Miles)

ProjectID: 01-11

Reference Type: D

ReferenceID: 393

Title: *River cleanup goes into high gear - EPA to begin second phase*

Location: AEM

Category: Site Update

Prepared by/Author: Jack Dew

**Preparer/Author
Address:**

Prepared For: The Pittsfield (MA) Berkshire Eagle

Date Published: May 12, 2002

**Key Words and
Phrases:**

Reference Type: D

ReferenceID: 496

Title: *EPA Discusses Housatonic Clean-up*

Location: AEM

Category: Site Update

Prepared by/Author: Kelly Wilkinson

**Preparer/Author
Address:**

Prepared For: WAMC (Albany, NY)

Date Published: October 1, 2003

**Key Words and
Phrases:**

Reference Type: D

ReferenceID: 497

Title: *EPA Outlines Scope of Work as Cleanup Enters New Phase*

Location: AEM

Category: Site Update

Prepared by/Author: Jack Dew

**Preparer/Author
Address:**

Prepared For: The Pittsfield (MA) Berkshire Eagle

Date Published: October 1, 2003

**Key Words and
Phrases:**

REFERENCES

Project Name **HOUSATONIC RIVER - PROJECT 3 (Next 1.5 Miles)**

ProjectID: 01-11

Reference Type: D

ReferenceID: 515

Title: **Mass. City living PCB cleanup**

Location: AEM

Category: Site Update

Prepared by/Author: Thom Randall

**Preparer/Author
Address:**

Prepared For: The Glens Falls (NY) Post-Star

Date Published: April 25, 2004

**Key Words and
Phrases:**

Reference Type: D

ReferenceID: 533

Title: **EPA Tries to Ease Health Fears**

Location: AEM

Category: Site Update

Prepared by/Author: Jack Dew

**Preparer/Author
Address:**

Prepared For: The Pittsfield (MA) Berkshire Eagle

Date Published: May 21, 2004

**Key Words and
Phrases:**

Reference Type: J

ReferenceID: 16

Title: **GE/Housatonic River Site: Housatonic River 1 1/2 Mile**

Location: AEM

Category: Site Update

Prepared by/Author: US EPA Region I

**Preparer/Author
Address:** <http://www.epa.gov/region01/ge/thesite/landhalfmile.html>

Prepared For: General Public

Date Published: July 18, 2000

**Key Words and
Phrases:**

FISH ADVISORIES

Project Name **HOUSATONIC RIVER - PROJECT 3 (Next 1.5 Miles)**

ProjectID: 01-11

Advisory: Housatonic River ***AdvisoryID:*** 793
Extent: All towns from Dalton to Sheffield
Pollutant: PCBs (total)
Species: all fish
Population: NCGP
Population Definition: No Consumption-General Population: Advise against consumption by the general population.

Advisory Type: River ***Advisory Number:*** 188

Status (Active or Rescinded): Active ***Date Rescinded:***

Contact Name: Elaine Krueger ***Contact Number:*** 617-624-5757

Advisory: Housatonic River ***AdvisoryID:*** 792
Extent: All towns from Dalton to Sheffield
Pollutant: PCBs (total)
Species: all fish
Population: NCSP
Population Definition: No Consumption-Subpopulation(s): Advises against consumption for populations that are potentially at greater risk, e.g., pregnant or nursing women, and small children.

Advisory Type: River ***Advisory Number:*** 188

Status (Active or Rescinded): Active ***Date Rescinded:***

Contact Name: Elaine Krueger ***Contact Number:*** 617-624-5757

Advisory: Housatonic River ***AdvisoryID:*** 790
Extent: All towns from Dalton to Sheffield
Pollutant: PCBs (total)
Species: frogs
Population: NCGP
Population Definition: No Consumption-General Population: Advise against consumption by the general population.

Advisory Type: River ***Advisory Number:*** 188

Status (Active or Rescinded): Active ***Date Rescinded:***

Contact Name: Elaine Krueger ***Contact Number:*** 617-624-5757

FISH ADVISORIES

Project Name **HOUSATONIC RIVER - PROJECT 3 (Next 1.5 Miles)**

ProjectID: 01-11

<i>Advisory:</i>	Housatonic River	<i>AdvisoryID:</i> 904
<i>Extent:</i>	All towns from Dalton to Sheffield	
<i>Pollutant:</i>	PCBs (total)	
<i>Species:</i>	frogs	
<i>Population:</i>	NCSP	
<i>Population Definition:</i>	No Consumption-Subpopulation(s): Advises against consumption for populations that are potentially at greater risk, e.g., pregnant or nursing women, and small children.	
<i>Advisory Type:</i>	River	<i>Advisory Number:</i> 188
<i>Status (Active or Rescinded):</i>	Active	<i>Date Rescinded:</i>
<i>Contact Name:</i>	Elaine Krueger	<i>Contact Number:</i> 617-624-5757
<i>Advisory:</i>	Housatonic River	<i>AdvisoryID:</i> 791
<i>Extent:</i>	All towns from Dalton to Sheffield	
<i>Pollutant:</i>	PCBs (total)	
<i>Species:</i>	turtles	
<i>Population:</i>	NCGP	
<i>Population Definition:</i>	No Consumption-General Population: Advise against consumption by the general population.	
<i>Advisory Type:</i>	River	<i>Advisory Number:</i> 188
<i>Status (Active or Rescinded):</i>	Active	<i>Date Rescinded:</i>
<i>Contact Name:</i>	Elaine Krueger	<i>Contact Number:</i> 617-624-5757
<i>Advisory:</i>	Housatonic River	<i>AdvisoryID:</i> 905
<i>Extent:</i>	All towns from Dalton to Sheffield	
<i>Pollutant:</i>	PCBs (total)	
<i>Species:</i>	turtles	
<i>Population:</i>	NCSP	
<i>Population Definition:</i>	No Consumption-Subpopulation(s): Advises against consumption for populations that are potentially at greater risk, e.g., pregnant or nursing women, and small children.	
<i>Advisory Type:</i>	River	<i>Advisory Number:</i> 188
<i>Status (Active or Rescinded):</i>	Active	<i>Date Rescinded:</i>
<i>Contact Name:</i>	Elaine Krueger	<i>Contact Number:</i> 617-624-5757