



Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

## Department of Environmental Protection

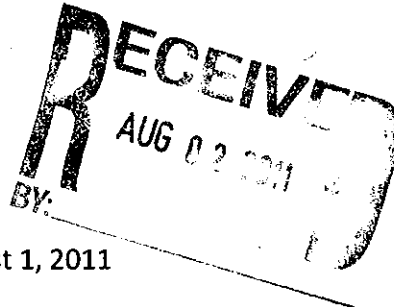
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August 1, 2011

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: 4-0015685  
Parker Street Waste Site  
New Bedford High School  
**CONDITIONAL APPROVAL TO CONDUCT A  
RELEASE ABATEMENT MEASURE**

Dear Mr. Alfonse:

On July 22, 2011, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup (MassDEP), received a Release Abatement Measure Plan Modification (the RAM Plan Modification) for the Parker Street Waste Site (the Site) submitted in accordance with M.G.L. c.21E and 310 CMR 40.0000, the Massachusetts Contingency Plan (the MCP), regarding ongoing response actions on the New Bedford High School (NBHS) Campus. The RAM Plan Modification, dated June 2011 was prepared on behalf of the City of New Bedford (the City) by TRC Companies, Inc. (TRC). The RAM Plan Modification is intended to amend the RAM Plan that was submitted to MassDEP on April 6, 2011, in part to satisfy a condition specified in MassDEP's written Conditional Approval to Conduct a RAM, dated April 15, 2011.

As described in the RAM Plan Modification, activities to be conducted or eliminated, that have been modified since the submittal of the April 6, 2011 RAM Plan, include, but are not limited to:

- ♦ Installation of subsurface stormwater retention structures in Exposure Point Area HS-5 (the Flag Pole Area);
- ♦ Implementation of risk reduction measures, including placement of a geotextile fabric and six inches of crushed stone, in the area identified as Exposure Point Area HS-8 to support the future use of that portion of the NBHS Campus as a solar park. Note that this area was originally proposed to be paved, as described in the April 6, 2011 RAM Plan;

- ◆ Elimination of the on-Site crushing of asphalt and concrete materials generated from the removal of existing surfaces and reuse of the crushed material as construction material;
- ◆ Installation of a chain link fence around the perimeter of the northern portion of the property for the purpose of providing Site security. Note that this fence has already been erected.
- ◆ Attempts to retain existing mature trees including excavation of soils to the extent possible around existing root systems;
- ◆ Use of paving in select areas to prevent direct contact exposure impacted soil, and any excavation and grading to support the paving;

The remaining portions of the RAM Plan (and the conditions imposed by MassDEP) remain in effect.

MassDEP acknowledges that the City posted public notices of the availability of a draft version of the RAM Plan and held a public comment period on the Draft RAM Plan Modification from July 1, 2011 through July 20, 2011. As indicated in an email correspondence from the City to MassDEP on July 21, 2011, no written comments were received by the City regarding the RAM Plan Modification.

Therefore, pursuant to 310 CMR 40.0443(2), MassDEP hereby provides conditional approval to the City to implement the RAM as detailed and modified in the above referenced submittals, and in accordance with the conditions described herein.

1. All of the conditions, as previously listed in MassDEP's April 15, 2011 Conditional Approval remain in place, with the following exception: provided the perimeter fence is in place and secure, if an excavation is to remain open at the end of the work day (inside the perimeter fence only), the excavation does not have to be covered with steel plates. The excavation should; however, be clearly marked with cones, caution tape or some other method to alert on-site workers that it is an open excavation.
2. Pursuant to 310 CMR 40.0443(3) the RAM activities shall be conducted as described in the RAM Plan, as modified in the RAM Plan Modification, and as approved herein. Any proposed modifications to the RAM Plan must be submitted in writing to MassDEP for review and approval prior to implementation.

Please be advised that, pursuant to 310 CMR 40.0445(1), a RAM Status Report must be submitted to MassDEP within one hundred and twenty (120) days from the date of MassDEP's receipt of the original RAM Plan, and every six (6) months thereafter until a RAM Completion Report, prepared in full accordance with 310 CMR 40.0446 is submitted.

Please note that this Site shall not be deemed to have had all of the necessary and required response actions taken unless and until all substantial hazards have been eliminated and a level of No Significant Risk exists or has been achieved in compliance with M.G.L. c.21E and the MCP.

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: **4-0015685**.

Sincerely,



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

P/MC/lg

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