



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 1
1 CONGRESS STREET, SUITE 1100
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02114-2023

SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED FILED
FBI - BOSTON
SEP 29 2005
8:3
240147

September 29, 2005

Mr. Robert Simeone
BRAC Environmental Coordinator
BRAC Environmental Office
30 Quebec Street, Box 100
Devens, MA 01434



SDMS DocID 240147

Re: **2005 Five-Year Review Report, Former Fort Devens NPL Site**

Dear Mr. Simeone:

This office is in receipt of the "2005 Five-Year Review Report, Former Fort Devens, Devens, Massachusetts" dated September 2005. EPA reviewed the report for compliance with the Comprehensive Five-Year Review Guidance (OSWER No. 9355.7-03B-P dated June 2001). Upon review of this report, EPA concurs with the Protectiveness Statements for each of the operable units covered by the report. The majority of the sites were found to be protective of human health and the environment as implemented or upon completion.

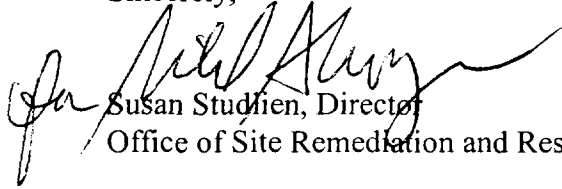
The Protectiveness Statement for the Shepley's Hill Landfill (SHL) site has been deferred pending the completion of a number of recommendations set forth in the 2005 Five-Year Review, including the operation and monitoring of the newly constructed groundwater extraction and treatment system; the completion of cap maintenance activities, scheduled for the Spring of 2006; and the completion of a Comprehensive Site Assessment and Corrective Action Alternatives Analysis (CSA/CAAA) by the Fall of 2007. The CSA/CAAA will evaluate the effectiveness and integrity of the implemented remedies at SHL, delineate the off-site plume and evaluate impacts, assess impacts to Red Cove, and ultimately recommend additional cleanup actions for the SHL site, if necessary.

The EPA concurs with the SHL recommendations and all other recommendations in the report and commits to work with the Army through the Base Cleanup Team (BCT) process and via the Federal Facilities Agreement (FFA) procedures to address the recommendations by the milestone dates set forth in the 2005 Five-Year Review Report. The EPA applauds the Army's commitment to perform a significant number of follow-up actions made to ensure the continued and/or long-term effectiveness of the remedies at the Former Fort Devens.

The 2005 Five-Year Review, the second comprehensive Five-Year Review completed at Devens, was triggered by the first comprehensive Five-Year Review completed in September 2000. The 2000 Five-Year Review was triggered by the initiation of remediation activities at AOCs 44 and

52 in August 1995. Consistent with Section 121(c) of CERCLA, the next Five-Year Review must be finalized on or before September 30, 2010.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan Studien", is written over the typed name and title.

Susan Studien, Director
Office of Site Remediation and Restoration

cc: Bryan Olson, EPA
Ginny Lombardo, EPA
Mike Daly, EPA
Lynne Welsh, MADEP
Ron Ostrowski, MassDevelopment