

1. Introduction

1.1 General

On October 27, 2000, a Consent Decree (CD) executed in 1999 by the General Electric Company (GE), the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP), and several other government agencies was entered by the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts. The CD requires (among other things) the performance of Removal Actions to address polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and other hazardous constituents present in soil, sediment, and groundwater in several Removal Action Areas (RAAs) located in or near Pittsfield, Massachusetts, which are part of the GE-Pittsfield/Housatonic River Site (Site) (see Figure 1-1). One of these RAAs is the Silver Lake Area, which includes both the lake itself and certain areas adjacent to the lake. This report addresses the sediments within Silver Lake.

The CD and accompanying *Statement of Work for Removal Actions Outside the River* (SOW) (Blasland, Bouck & Lee, Inc. [BBL], 1999) establish Performance Standards that must be achieved, as well as specific work plans and other documents that must be prepared to support the response actions for each RAA. For most of the Removal Actions, these work plans/documents generally include the following: Pre-Design Investigation Work Plan, Pre-Design Investigation Report, Conceptual Removal Design/Removal Action (RD/RA) Work Plan, and Final RD/RA Work Plan (Final Work Plan). These include the Silver Lake Area Removal Action, which includes removal and capping activities for the sediments within the Lake and remediation of the soils in certain areas on or adjacent to the banks of the Lake. On July 3, 2008, GE submitted a Conceptual RD/RA Work Plan for the Silver Lake Sediments, which addressed the sediment remediation component of the Silver Lake Area Removal Action. In a conditional approval letter dated March 2, 2009, EPA directed GE to make certain modifications and clarifications to that Work Plan, and to submit a revised Conceptual RD/RA Work Plan for Silver Lake Sediments. In response, GE has made the modifications and clarifications specified in EPA's letter and is submitting this document as the Revised Conceptual RD/RA Work Plan for the Silver Lake Sediments (Conceptual Work Plan for Sediments).

As set forth in the SOW and subsequent decisions by EPA, the Performance Standards for Silver Lake sediment remediation are briefly summarized below:

- GE shall remove a maximum of 400 in-situ cubic yards (cy) of sediments from an area in the general vicinity of existing outfall 01A, **replace the removed sediments**, and restore and vegetate that portion of the affected area that is not underwater in



General Electric Company

**Revised Conceptual Removal
Design/Removal Action Work Plan
for Silver Lake Sediments**

Originally Submitted July 2008

Revised April 2009