

November 4, 2009  
Job No. 43654.00-C



Mr. Joseph Martella  
Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management  
Office of Waste Management  
235 Promenade Street  
Providence, Rhode Island 02908

Mr. James Ball  
Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management  
Office of Emergency Response  
235 Promenade Street  
Providence, RI 02908-5767

530 Broadway  
Providence  
Rhode Island  
02909  
401-421-4140  
FAX 401-751-8613  
www.gza.net

Re: Notice of Release  
Former Tidewater Facility  
200 Taft Street  
Pawtucket, Rhode Island

Dear Messrs. Martella and Ball:

On behalf of our Client, The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid (National Grid), GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc. (GZA), is providing this written notice of a release that occurred at the former Tidewater Facility in Pawtucket, Rhode Island (Site) in accordance with the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RIDEM) Rules and Regulations for the Investigation and Remediation of Hazardous materials Releases, Section 5. The RIDEM Hazardous Material Release Notification Form has been completed and is attached as Appendix A. The Site was the location of the former Tidewater Manufactured Gas Plant (MGP) and the Pawtucket No. 1 Power Station. The majority of the Site is currently vacant with the exception of an active natural gas regulating station, and active switching and electrical substations, both owned and operated by National Grid. The site *Locus Plan* is provided as Figure 1, attached.

On October 21, 2009 at approximately 3:00 PM, a sheen was observed on the Seekonk River adjacent to the portion of the Site previously occupied by the MGP operations. National Grid provided verbal notification to RIDEM and also made notifications to the National Response Center, Local Emergency Response Commission/Pawtucket Fire Department and State Emergency Response Commission. The United States Coast Guard was notified by the National Response Center, who in turn contacted National Grid. Based on visual observations, the sheen appears to originate sporadically along a 30-foot section of the natural riverbank at a tidal height approximately 3 feet below mean high water. The sheen is visible as the water levels in the river approach low tide, exposing the section of riverbank which is normally below water. The sheen appears to cease just as the tide turns and begins to come in. The sheen has been documented on several occasions since October 21<sup>st</sup> and is consistently only observed during this portion of the tidal cycle. The source of the sheen is believed to be residual products from the former manufactured gas plant that operated on the Site from the late 1800s until the late 1960s.



In response to the sheen, Clean Harbors Environmental Services, Inc. (CHES) of East Providence Rhode Island, an environmental services and hazardous waste disposal company, responded to the Site. On October 21, 2009, oil containment booms were installed in the Seekonk River, approximately 50-feet north of the sheen area to approximately 50-feet south of the sheen area, see Photos 1 and 2, attached. In addition to the oil containment booms, oil snares were placed on the inside of the booms to absorb additional floating product that may not be collected by the booms. GZA is currently performing Site visits twice per week at various tidal stages to observe and document the sheen, as well as performance of the boom system.

National Grid is currently completing a *Site Investigation* (SI) for the Site, which has been assigned Case No. 95-022 by the RIDEM, Office of Waste Management. As part of the SI, soil explorations will be conducted in the area adjacent to the observed sheen and appropriate remedial steps will be recommended at the completion of the investigation. Until that time, National Grid will continue to monitor the sheen area and will maintain the containment booms in their existing location.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Meg Kilpatrick at (401) 421-4140 or Michele Leone at (781) 907-3651. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

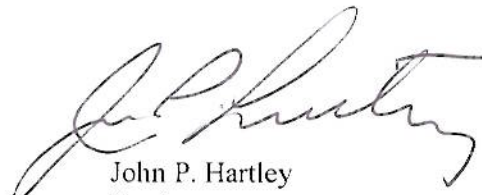
GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc.



Stephen Andrus, P.E.  
Assistant Project Manager



Margaret S. Kilpatrick, P.E.  
Senior Project Manager



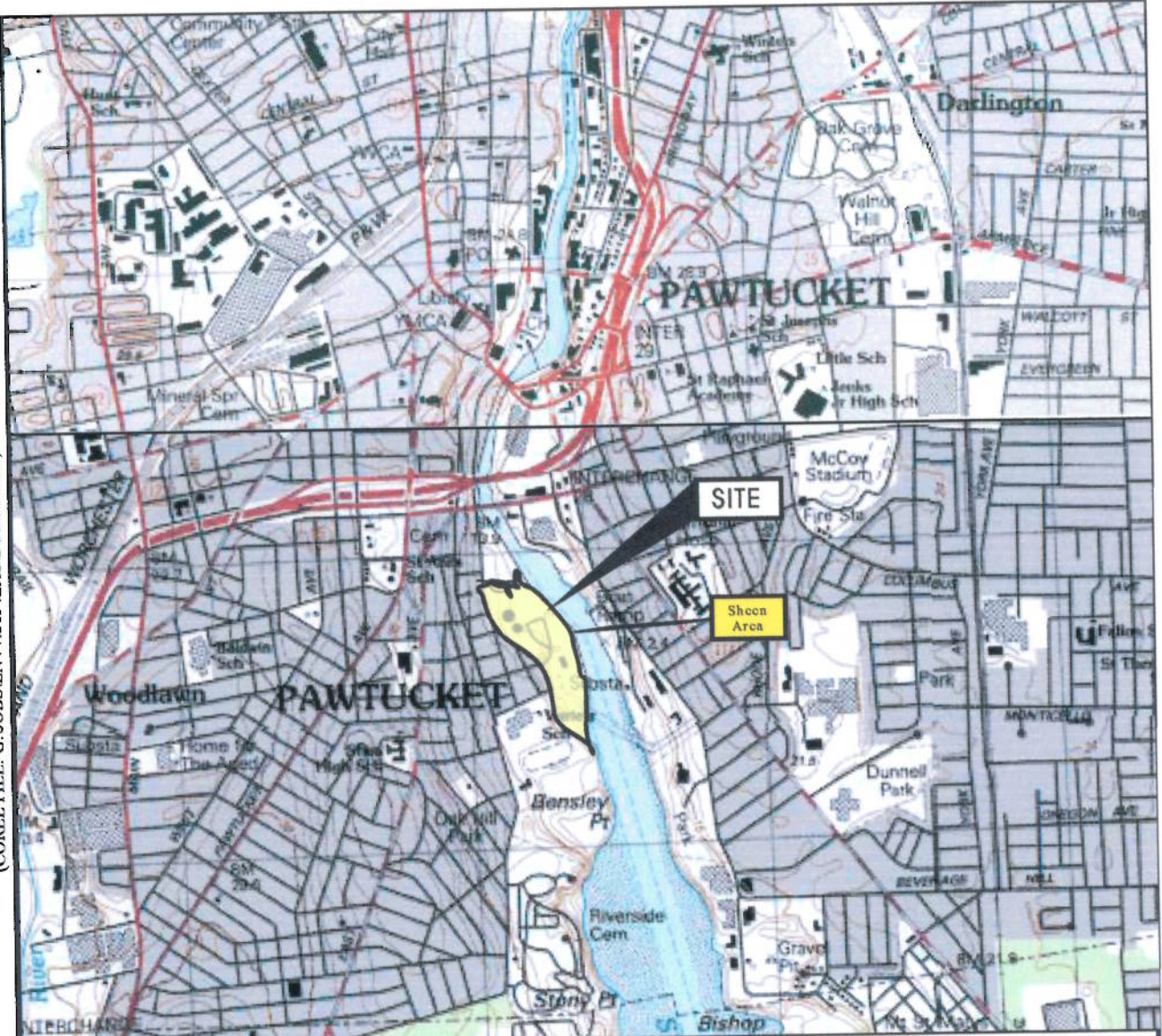
John P. Hartley  
Reviewer

SMA/MSK:tja

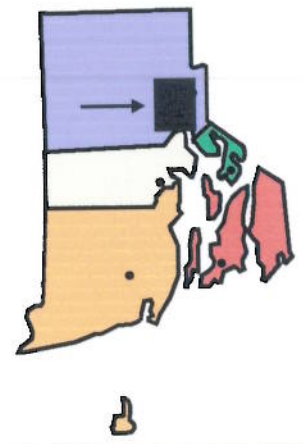
Attachments: Figure 1, Locus Map  
Photos 1 and 2  
Attachment A: Hazardous Material Release Notification Form

cc: Michele Leone, National Grid

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FROM USGS PROVIDENCE, RI QUADRANGLE MAP  
(DIGITAL TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS PROVIDED BY MAPTECH, INC.)  
(CONTOUR ELEVATIONS ARE IN METERS ABOVE NGVD, AT 3 METER INTERVALS)



TIDEWATER FACILITY  
PAWTUCKET  
RHODE ISLAND

# LOCUS PLAN

JANUARY 2007

FIGURE NO. 1

# FORMER TIDEWATER MANUFACTURED GAS PLANT PAWTUCKET, RHODE ISLAND

Photo 1: Area of River Bank Where Sheen Appears



Photo 2: Containment Boom and Oil Snares Installed at Sheen Area



**OFFICE OF WASTE MANAGEMENT  
SITE REMEDIATION SECTION  
HAZARDOUS MATERIAL RELEASE NOTIFICATION FORM  
THIS FORM IS NOT TO BE USED TO REPORT AN IMMINENT HAZARD**

1. Notifier Information

Name: The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid (National Grid)  
Contact: Michele Leone, National Grid, Manager  
New England Site Investigation and Remediation  
Address: 40 Sylvan Road, Waltham, Massachusetts 02451  
Phone: 781-907-3651  
Status: Owner

2. Property Information

Name of Site: Former Tidewater Facility  
Site Address: 200 Taft Street, Pawtucket, Rhode Island  
Plat/Lot Numbers: Plat 54B, Lot 826 and Plat 65B, Lot 662  
Site Contact Person: Michele Leone  
Site Contact Phone: 781-907-3651  
Site Land Usage Type: Industrial/Commercial  
Location of Release: See Attached Plan

3. Release Information

Date of Discovery: October 21, 2009  
Source: Existing On-Site Manufactured Gas Plant Residuals  
Release Media: Sheen on Seekonk River  
Hazardous Materials and Concentrations: Not Tested  
Extent of Contamination: Sheen on the water surface of the Seekonk River adjacent to the property. Sheen sporadically observed along approximate 30-ft length of natural river bank. Sheen appears prior to low tide and dissipates after low tide.

4. Resource Information

Site Land Usage: Industrial/Commercial  
Adjacent Land Usage: Industrial/Commercial, Public Park and Residential

Site Groundwater Class: GB Adjacent Groundwater Class: GB

Nearest Surface Water or Wetland: Seekonk River is Less Than 500 Feet

Potential for Adverse Impact: Yes— presently limited to small intermittent area of sheen

5. Potentially Responsible Parties:

Name: National Grid

Address: 40 Sylvan Road, Waltham, Massachusetts 02451

Status: Owner

6. Measures Taken or Proposed to be Taken in Response to Release:

The sheen was noticed by on-site personnel at approximately 3:00 PM on 10/21/09. National Grid provided verbal notification to RIDEM and also made notifications to the National Response Center, Local Emergency Response Commission/Pawtucket Fire Department and State Emergency Response Commission. The United States Coast Guard was notified by the National Response Center, who in turn contacted National Grid. Clean Harbors of East Providence Rhode Island, an environmental services and hazardous waste disposal company, responded to the Site. Oil containment booms were installed on October 21, 2009 in the Seekonk River, approximately 50-feet north of the sheen area to approximately 50-feet south of the sheen area. In addition to the oil containment booms, oil snares were placed on the inside of the booms to absorb additional sheens that may not be collected by the booms. GZA is currently performing Site visits twice per week at various tidal stages to observe and document the sheen, as well as performance of the boom system.

7. Other Significant Remarks About Release (Will a background determination be made?)

National Grid is currently completing a *Site Investigation* (SI) for the Site, which has been assigned the RIDEM Case No. 95-022 by the Office of Waste Management. The potential source of the sheens will be investigated as part of the SI and appropriate remedial steps will be recommended at the completion of the investigation. Until that time, Nation Grid will continue to monitor the sheen area and will maintain the booms in their existing location.

Signature: 

Date: 11/04/2009

Title: Manager