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MARK V. DUNHAM  
Chief Financial Officer

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FINANCE OFFICE

June 6, 2006

Mr. Joseph T. Martella II, Senior Engineer  
RI Dept of Environmental Management  
Office of Waste Management  
Site Remediation Program  
235 Promenade St.  
Providence, RI 02908

RE: Response to RAWP Comment No. 6 Former Gorham Manufacturing Facility.  
Parcel B.333 Adelaide Avenue, Providence, Rhode Island  
Case No. 2005-029

Dear Mr. Martella:

On behalf of the Providence School Department ("Department"), I respectfully submit this correspondence in response to Comment No. 6 in your Remedial Action Work Plan Comment Letter dated 23 may 2006.

Although the school facility to be constructed at the above-referenced location will be built by the Providence Department of Public Properties, the operation, monitoring and maintenance (OM&M) of the completed facility, including all components of the approved remedy, will be the responsibility of the Providence School Department. By this letter the Providence School Department acknowledges that the OM&M of the approved remedy is an integral, non-discretionary part of the operation of this school facility and that, pursuant to the terms of the Remedial Action Work Plan (RAWP), the Providence School Department is obligated to fund and implement said OM&M for a minimum of twenty (20) years. The Providence School Department further recognizes that a failure to properly implement, operate, monitor and maintain the remedy at this site in accordance with the RAWP and any associated Orders of Approval issued by RIDEM could threaten the health and safety of the occupants of the facility and/or the Providence School Department, including but not limited to actions for monetary penalties and closure of the facility.

In my role as Chief Financial Officer of the Department, it is my responsibility to manage the Providence School Board budget and seek allocation of funds from the Providence City Council to satisfy costs reflected in that budget. The process for the appropriation and allocation of such funds is set forth in the Providence Home Rule Charter. Because the Providence School Department must rely on the City Council to fund the School Department's budget, it is impossible for the School Department to commit funds that have yet to be appropriated. However, while the Providence School Department cannot commit the actual funds, it can and does commit to prioritize the costs associated with the OM&M of the remedy at the subject facility as non-discretionary operating expenses, akin to the utility costs and contractual obligations, in all future School Department budgets. Accordingly, by my signature below I acknowledge the special responsibilities of the

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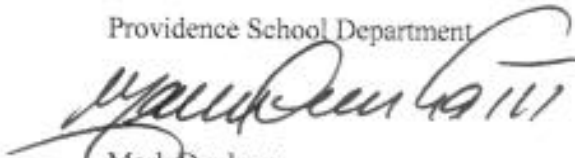
An Equal Opportunity Employer. The Providence School Department does not discriminate on the basis of race, age, sex, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, color, disability or veteran status. The district's mission is to enable every student to discover and develop his or her unique talents and to ensure that each student achieves high standards through the provision of a rigorous and challenging common core curriculum, strong parental and public support and engagement in the educational process, and robust recruitment and retention of the highest quality workforce, by providing leadership, professional development, support and inspiration to all employees.

Providence School Department at the above-referenced location and indicate that the Providence School Department will seek to appropriate all funds for the OM&M of the redial action at the referenced location for the duration of time that the property is used as a school facility.

Please call me at (401)456-9435 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Providence School Department

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Dunham", written over the typed name.

Mark Dunham  
Chief Financial Officer

- C: Dr. Donnie Evans, Ed. D, Superintendent, Providence School Department  
Ms. Mary McClure, President, Providence School Board  
The Honorable Kevin C. Jackson, chairperson, Providence City Council Finance Committee  
Joseph Fernandez, Esquire - City Solicitor  
Sara Rapport, Esquire