

**Monthly Status Report
W. R. Grace Superfund Site
Acton, Massachusetts
November 6, 2002**

W. R. Grace (Grace) is conducting the Phase 1 Remedial Investigation at the above referenced site. This Monthly Status Report is being transmitted to keep the government parties advised of the progress and schedule of the RI activities. This report summarizes the activities completed in the past month, provides a schedule of activities planned for the coming month and describes any problems encountered. The exact date of scheduled activities may change due to resource availability and/or weather. Those interested in being kept advised of schedule changes of a particular activity are requested to contact the person listed for that activity.

Deliverables/Meeting

A meeting to discuss the Draft RI Report was held on Tuesday October 8, 2002 at GeoTrans offices in Harvard, MA. Minutes of the meeting were distributed via e-mail on October 16, 2002. Written responses to comments are currently being prepared. Additional comments from the EPA on the groundwater flow model are anticipated. A schedule for the submission of the written responses to comments will be determined after receipt of the remaining comments.

[Contact: Anne Sheehan, GeoTrans, (978)-772-7557, Asheehan@Geotransinc.com]

Private Well Survey

Diffusive samplers were removed from the private wells located at 1 Lisa Lane and 5 Bellantoni Drive in Acton on November 4, 2002. The water from the diffusive samplers is currently being analyzed for VOCs. A letter summarizing the results of the investigations on the two private wells will be submitted to the government parties later this month.

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Groundwater Sampling/Water Level Monitoring

Annual groundwater sampling began during the week of October 14, 2002 and is expected to be completed during the week of November 11, 2002. The Site-wide water level measurement round will be conducted following completion of the groundwater sampling.

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Feasibility Study

The jar testing is scheduled to begin during the week of November 11, 2002.

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Ecological Risk Assessment

The fieldwork for the Phase 2 ecological risk assessment is continuing. On October 23, 2002, surface water samples were collected from Fort Pond Brook during a rain event. Common shiners, a type of minnow, were collected from Sinking Pond using baited minnow traps. Additional attempts to collect another species of fish, such as sunfish, at Sinking Pond by rod and reel were unsuccessful. Baited minnow traps were set at White Pond for a 42-hour period, checked and rebaited daily. Attempts to collect minnows from White Pond were unsuccessful. As a result of being unable to collect the same species of fish from both Sinking Pond and White Pond, no fish samples will be analyzed from White Pond.

Remaining fieldwork for the ecological risk assessment includes collection of surface water samples from Sinking Pond during late fall and early spring. These events are tentatively scheduled for the end of November or beginning of December 2002 and March 2003.

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