



TOWN OF MEDFIELD

Office of

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

TOWN HOUSE, 459 MAIN STREET
MEDFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS 02052-0315

(508) 359-8505

MICHAEL J. SULLIVAN
Town Administrator

February 22, 2012

Ms. Carole Cornelison, Commissioner
Division of Capital Asset Management
One Ashburton Place, 15th Floor
Boston, MA 02108

RE: Town of Medfield Policy Statement
Medfield State Hospital Property

Dear Commissioner Cornelison,

On January 24, 2012 in order to facilitate DCAM's plan to begin field work on the Supplemental Massachusetts Contingency Plan (MCP) Phase II Comprehensive Site Assessment Scope of Work, the Public Involvement Plan (PIP) group submitted its comments and those of the Town's State Hospital Environmental Review Committee (SHERC) on the Draft Immediate Response Action (IRA) Plan Modification, Draft Clay Containment Release Abatement Measure (RAM) Completion Report and Class A-2 partial Response Action Outcome (RAO), and the Supplemental Phase II Report (December 2011).

These comments were in addition to those discussed in Technical Meetings on January 12, 2012 and January 19, 2012, and several of them had been expressed previously.

The Medfield Board of Selectmen is particularly concerned that: 1.) SHERC-requested investigations for the presence of additional contaminants of concern in the C&D Area (this area has been redefined by SHERC and the PIP group as an incineration/medical waste landfill) and in Charles River sediment and we are concerned that they may not be performed; and 2.) no evaluation of alternatives beyond the partial fill removal and capping currently favored by DCAM will be presented in the Phase III Remedial Action Plan report.

The C&D/MWL Area intersects the Town's principal water supply, prevents flood storage that originally existed, is in an area used for boating, fishing, hiking, and is clearly intended for ever-increasing public use in the future. A portion of this area is within the Zone II and the remaining portion is considered as a "potentially productive aquifer", which may be required for future water supply purposes but will not be permitted if the hazardous materials are left below the water table.

The Board of Selectmen, SHERC, the PIP group and the Charles River Watershed Association have all expressed concerns that the current DCAM-favored remediation plan has been put forth primarily in the interests of expediency and low cost. As a Town, we believe that the benefits of the area far outweigh the costs to perform the response actions to clean the area up, so that future generations can have the maximum benefits of the property. In this way, no portion of the developed property will be devalued by its proximity to an unlined hazardous materials landfill.

The Town of Medfield is opposed to any plan to cap rather than remove all of the contaminated material adjacent to the Charles River. The Town seeks unrestricted use (no Activity and Use Limitations) for the area and requests that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts remove all of the contaminated fill, construction and demolition waste, and medical and incineration waste, placed on the ground by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, from the Zone II, maximize removal from the potentially productive aquifer and, to the degree feasible, from the gas line easement.

Sincerely,



Ann B. Thompson



Osler L. Peterson
Ann B. Thompson
Mark Fisher