

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF RHODE ISLAND

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA and the
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND,

Plaintiffs,

v.

THE RHODE ISLAND BOARD OF
GOVERNORS FOR HIGHER
EDUCATION, THE UNIVERSITY OF
RHODE ISLAND, THE TOWN OF
NARRAGANSETT, and THE TOWN OF
SOUTH KINGSTOWN,

Defendants.

Civil Action No. CA08-3065

CONSENT DECREE
WEST KINGSTON TOWN DUMP/URI DISPOSAL AREA SUPERFUND SITE
SOUTH KINGSTOWN, RHODE ISLAND

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I. BACKGROUND

A. The United States of America (“United States”), on behalf of the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (“EPA”), filed a complaint in this matter pursuant to Sections 106 and 107 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (“CERCLA”), 42 U.S.C. §§ 9606, 9607.

B. The United States in its complaint seeks, inter alia: (1) reimbursement of costs incurred by EPA and the Department of Justice for response actions at the West Kingston Town Dump/URI Disposal Area Superfund Site in South Kingstown, Rhode Island, together with accrued interest; and (2) performance of studies and response work by the defendants at the Site consistent with the National Contingency Plan, 40 C.F.R. Part 300 (as amended) (“NCP”).

C. In accordance with the NCP and Section 121(f)(1)(F) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9621(f)(1)(F), EPA notified the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations (the “State”) on or about January 22, 2007, of negotiations with potentially responsible parties regarding the implementation of the remedial design and remedial action for the Site, and EPA has provided the State with an opportunity to participate in such negotiations and to be a party to this Consent Decree.

D. The State has also filed a complaint against the defendants in this Court alleging that the defendants are liable to the State under Section 107 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9607, and R.I.G.L. §§ 23-18.9, 23-19.1 and 23-19.14 for recovery of the response costs incurred by the State and for the recovery of the costs and expenses to be incurred by the State in investigating, containing, removing, monitoring, or mitigating pollution and contamination allegedly caused by the defendants.

E. In accordance with Section 122(j)(1) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9622(j)(1), EPA notified the United States Department of the Interior, the United States National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, and the State of Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (“RIDEM”), by letter dated January 22, 2007 of negotiations with potentially responsible parties regarding the release of hazardous substances that may have resulted in injury to the natural resources under State and Federal trusteeship and encouraged the trustees to participate in the negotiation of this Consent Decree.

F. The defendants that have entered into this Consent Decree (“Settling Defendants”) do not admit any liability to the Plaintiffs arising out of the transactions or occurrences alleged in the complaints, nor do they acknowledge that the release or threatened release of hazardous substance(s) at or from the Site constitutes an imminent or substantial endangerment to the public health or welfare or the environment.

G. Pursuant to Section 105 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9605, EPA placed the Site on the National Priorities List, set forth at 40 C.F.R. Part 300, Appendix B, by publication in the Federal Register on October 14, 1992, 57 Fed. Reg. 47180.

H. In 2001, RIDEM (acting pursuant to an enforcement agreement signed by EPA on August 13, 2001) issued letters of responsibility to certain Settling Defendants. These letters directed these Settling Defendants (1) to install a protective cap over the parts of the Site that used to be used as landfills, pursuant to EPA’s guidance memorandum, “Presumptive Remedy for CERCLA Municipal Landfill Sites,” and (2) to perform a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (“RI/FS”) to address any contamination not addressed by the protective caps.

I. The Town of Narragansett, the Town of South Kingstown, and the University of Rhode Island agreed to perform the actions described in RIDEM’s letters of responsibility. In

2005 and 2006 the same three Settling Defendants implemented the presumptive remedy by capping the landfill areas. In response to a release or a substantial threat of a release of hazardous substances at or from the Site, these three Settling Defendants commenced the RI/FS in 2002, issuing a Remedial Investigation ("RI") Report in April 2006 and a Feasibility Study in June 2006.

J. Pursuant to Section 117 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9617, EPA published notice of the completion of the RI/FS and of the proposed plan for remedial action on June 21, 2006, in a major local newspaper of general circulation. EPA provided an opportunity for written and oral comments from the public on the proposed plan for remedial action. A copy of the transcript of the public meeting is available to the public as part of the administrative record upon which EPA based the selection of the response action.

K. The decision by EPA on the remedial action to be implemented at the Site is embodied in a final Record of Decision ("ROD"), signed on September 28, 2006. The ROD includes a responsiveness summary addressing public comments on the proposed plan. Notice of the final plan was published in accordance with Section 117(b) of CERCLA.

L. Based on the information currently available to EPA and the State, EPA and the State believe that the Work will be properly and promptly conducted by Settling Defendants consistent with the requirements of the National Contingency Plan if conducted in accordance with the requirements of this Consent Decree and its appendices.

M. Solely for the purposes of Section 113(j) of CERCLA, the Remedial Action selected by the ROD and the Work to be performed by Settling Defendants shall constitute a response action taken or ordered by the President.

N. The Parties recognize, and the Court by entering this Consent Decree finds, that this Consent Decree has been negotiated by the Parties in good faith and implementation of this Consent Decree will expedite the cleanup of the Site and will avoid prolonged and complicated litigation between the Parties, and that this Consent Decree is fair, reasonable, and in the public interest.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby Ordered, Adjudged, and Decreed:

II. JURISDICTION

1. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1345, and 42 U.S.C. §§ 9606, 9607, and 9613(b). This Court also has personal jurisdiction over the Settling Defendants. Solely for the purposes of this Consent Decree and the underlying complaints, Settling Defendants waive all objections and defenses that they may have to jurisdiction of the Court or to venue in this District. Settling Defendants shall not challenge the terms of this Consent Decree or this Court's jurisdiction to enter and enforce this Consent Decree.

III. PARTIES BOUND

2. This Consent Decree applies to and is binding upon the United States and the State and upon Settling Defendants and their successors and assigns. Any change in ownership or corporate status of a Settling Defendant including, but not limited to, any transfer of assets or real or personal property, shall in no way alter such Settling Defendant's responsibilities under this Consent Decree.

3. Settling Defendants shall provide a copy of this Consent Decree to each contractor hired to perform the Work (as defined below) required by this Consent Decree and to each person representing any Settling Defendant with respect to the Site or the Work and shall condition all

contracts entered into hereunder upon performance of the Work in conformity with the terms of this Consent Decree. Settling Defendants or their contractors shall provide written notice of the Consent Decree to all subcontractors hired to perform any portion of the Work required by this Consent Decree. Settling Defendants shall nonetheless be responsible for ensuring that their contractors and subcontractors perform the Work contemplated herein in accordance with this Consent Decree. With regard to the activities undertaken pursuant to this Consent Decree, each contractor and subcontractor shall be deemed to be in a contractual relationship with Settling Defendants within the meaning of Section 107(b)(3) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9607(b)(3).

IV. DEFINITIONS

4. Unless otherwise expressly provided herein, terms used in this Consent Decree that are defined in CERCLA or in regulations promulgated under CERCLA shall have the meaning assigned to them in CERCLA or in such regulations. Whenever terms listed below are used in this Consent Decree or in the appendices attached hereto and incorporated hereunder, the following definitions shall apply:

“CERCLA” shall mean the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9601 *et seq.*

“Consent Decree” shall mean this Decree and all appendices attached hereto (listed in Section XXIX). In the event of conflict between this Decree and any appendix, this Decree shall control.

“Day” shall mean a calendar day unless expressly stated to be a working day. “Working day” shall mean a day other than a Saturday, Sunday, or Federal holiday. In computing any period of time under this Consent Decree, where the last day would fall on a Saturday, Sunday, or Federal holiday, the period shall run until the close of business of the next working day.

“DOI” shall mean the United States Department of the Interior and any successor departments, agencies or instrumentalities of the United States.

“Effective Date” shall be the effective date of this Consent Decree as provided in Paragraph 118.

“EPA” shall mean the United States Environmental Protection Agency and any successor departments or agencies of the United States.

“Future Response Costs” shall mean all costs, including, but not limited to, direct and indirect costs, that the United States incurs in reviewing or developing plans, reports and other items pursuant to this Consent Decree, verifying the Work, or otherwise overseeing this Consent Decree, including, but not limited to, payroll costs, contractor costs, travel costs, laboratory costs, and the costs incurred pursuant to Sections VII, provided however that Future Response Costs do not include costs incurred or to be incurred by the United States pursuant to Paragraphs 29, 55, and 97 of this Consent Decree. Future Response Costs shall also include all Interim Response Costs, and all Interest on those Past Response Costs Settling Defendants have agreed to reimburse under this Consent Decree that has accrued pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 9607(a) during the period from June 6, 2007 to the date of entry of this Consent Decree.

“Interim Response Costs” shall mean all costs, including direct and indirect costs, (a) paid by the United States in connection with the Site between June 6, 2007 and the Effective Date, or (b) incurred prior to the Effective Date but paid after that date.

“Interest” shall mean interest at the rate specified for interest on investments of the EPA Hazardous Substance Superfund established by 26 U.S.C. § 9507, compounded annually on October 1 of each year, in accordance with 42 U.S.C. § 9607(a). The applicable rate of interest

shall be the rate in effect at the time the interest accrues. The rate of interest is subject to change on October 1 of each year.

“Municipal solid waste” shall mean waste material: (i) generated by a household (including a single or multifamily residence); or (ii) generated by a commercial, industrial or institutional entity, to the extent that the waste material – (I) is essentially the same as waste normally generated by a household; (II) is collected and disposed of with other municipal solid waste as part of normal municipal solid waste collection services; and (III) contains a relative quantity of hazardous substances no greater than the relative quantity of hazardous substances contained in waste material generated by a typical single-family household.

“National Contingency Plan” or “NCP” shall mean the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan promulgated pursuant to Section 105 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9605, codified at 40 C.F.R. Part 300, and any amendments thereto.

“Operation and Maintenance” or “O & M” shall mean all activities required to maintain the effectiveness of the Remedial Action as required under the Operation and Maintenance Plan approved or developed by EPA pursuant to this Consent Decree and the Statement of Work (SOW).

“Owner Settling Defendants” shall mean the Town of South Kingstown, the University of Rhode Island and the Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education.

“Paragraph” shall mean a portion of this Consent Decree identified by an arabic numeral or an upper case letter.

“Parties” shall mean the United States, the State of Rhode Island, and the Settling Defendants.

“Past Response Costs” shall mean all costs, including, but not limited to, direct and indirect costs, that the United States paid at or in connection with the Site through June 5, 2007, plus Interest on all such costs which has accrued pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 9607(a) through such date.

“Performance Standards” shall mean the cleanup standards and other measures of achievement of the goals of the Remedial Action, set forth in Section L of the ROD and Section IV of the SOW.

“Plaintiffs” shall mean the United States and the State of Rhode Island.

“RCRA” shall mean the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. §§ 6901 *et seq.* (also known as the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act).

“Record of Decision” or “ROD” shall mean the EPA Record of Decision relating to the Site signed on September 28, 2006, by the Director, Office of Site Remediation and Restoration, EPA Region 1, or her delegate, and all attachments thereto. The ROD is attached as Appendix A.

“Remedial Action” shall mean those activities, except for Operation and Maintenance, to be undertaken by Settling Defendants to implement the ROD, in accordance with the SOW and the final Remedial Design and Remedial Action Work Plans and other plans approved by EPA.

“Remedial Action Work Plan” shall mean the document developed pursuant to Paragraph 13 of this Consent Decree and approved by EPA, and any amendments thereto.

“Remedial Design” shall mean those activities to be undertaken by Settling Defendants to develop the final plans and specifications for the Remedial Action pursuant to the Remedial Design and Pilot Studies Work Plan and the Remedial Design Reports, as described further in Section V of the SOW.

“Remedial Design Reports” shall mean the documents developed pursuant to Paragraph 12 of this Consent Decree and approved by EPA, and any amendments thereto, as described further in Section V of the SOW.

“Remedial Design and Pilot Studies Work Plan” shall mean the document developed pursuant to Paragraph 12 of this Consent Decree and approved by EPA, and any amendments thereto, as described further in Section V of the SOW.

“RIDEM” shall mean the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management and any successor departments or agencies of the State.

“Section” shall mean a portion of this Consent Decree identified by a Roman numeral.

“Settling Defendants” shall mean the Town of Narragansett, the Town of South Kingstown, the Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education and the University of Rhode Island, and shall include such Parties’ officers, directors, employees, successors and assigns, but only to the extent that the alleged liability of the officer, director, employee, successor or assign is based on his, her or its status and in his, her or its capacity as a Settling Defendant’s officer, director, employee, successor or assign, and not to the extent that the alleged liability arose independently of the alleged liability of the Settling Defendant.

“Site” shall mean the West Kingston Town Dump/University of Rhode Island (URI) Disposal Area Superfund Site, including the areas contaminated by hazardous substances from the URI Disposal Area, the West Kingston Town Dump, and the Former Drum Storage Area, located in South Kingstown, Rhode Island, and depicted generally on the map attached as Appendix C.

“State” shall mean the State of Rhode Island.

“State Response Costs” shall mean (a) all costs, including, but not limited to, direct and

indirect costs, that the State has paid at or in connection with the Site prior to the Effective Date of this Consent Decree, and (b) all costs, including, but not limited to, direct and indirect costs, that the State incurs in reviewing or developing plans, reports and other items pursuant to this Consent Decree, verifying the Work, or otherwise overseeing this Consent Decree, including, but not limited to, payroll costs, contractor costs, travel costs, laboratory costs, and the costs incurred pursuant to Sections VII, provided however that State Response Costs do not include any costs incurred or to be incurred by the State pursuant to Paragraphs 29, 55, and 97 of this Consent Decree.

“Statement of Work” or “SOW” shall mean the statement of work for implementation of the Remedial Design, Remedial Action, and Operation and Maintenance at the Site, as set forth in Appendix B to this Consent Decree and any modifications made in accordance with this Consent Decree.

“Supervising Contractor” shall mean the principal contractor retained by Settling Defendants to supervise and direct the implementation of the Work under this Consent Decree.

“United States” shall mean the United States of America, including all of its departments, agencies, and instrumentalities, which includes without limitation EPA and any federal natural resources trustee.

“Waste Material” shall mean (1) any “hazardous substance” under Section 101(14) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601(14); (2) any pollutant or contaminant under Section 101(33), 42 U.S.C. § 9601(33); (3) any “solid waste” under Section 1004(27) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6903(27); (4) any “hazardous waste” under Section 23.19.1-4 of the General Laws of Rhode Island, or any “hazardous material” or “hazardous substance” under sections 3.28 and 3.29 of the Rhode Island Rules and Regulations for the Investigation and Remediation of Hazardous

Material Releases.

“Work” shall mean all activities Settling Defendants are required to perform under this Consent Decree, except those required by Section XXV (Retention of Records).

V. GENERAL PROVISIONS

5. Objectives of the Parties. The objectives of the Parties in entering into this Consent Decree are to protect public health or welfare or the environment at the Site by the design and implementation of response actions at the Site by Settling Defendants, to reimburse response costs of the Plaintiffs, and to resolve the claims of Plaintiffs against Settling Defendants and the claims of Settling Defendants which have been or could have been asserted against the United States with regard to this Site as provided in this Consent Decree.

6. Commitments by Settling Defendants

a. Settling Defendants shall finance and perform the Work in accordance with this Consent Decree, the ROD, the SOW, and all work plans and other plans, standards, specifications, and schedules set forth herein or developed by Settling Defendants and approved by EPA pursuant to this Consent Decree. Settling Defendants shall also pay the United States the amounts provided in Paragraph 57.a of this Consent Decree, in consideration of Past Response Costs and Future Response Costs incurred or to be incurred by the United States and State Response Costs incurred or to be incurred by the State, and the amounts provided in Paragraph 58.

b. The obligations of Settling Defendants to finance and perform the Work and to pay amounts owed the United States and the State under this Consent Decree are joint and several. In the event of the insolvency or other failure of any one or more Settling Defendants to

implement the requirements of this Consent Decree, the remaining Settling Defendants shall complete all such requirements.

7. Compliance With Applicable Law. All activities undertaken by Settling Defendants pursuant to this Consent Decree shall be performed in accordance with the requirements of all applicable federal and state laws and regulations. Settling Defendants must also comply with all applicable or relevant and appropriate requirements (“ARARs”) of all Federal and state environmental laws as set forth in the ROD and the SOW. The activities conducted pursuant to this Consent Decree, if approved by EPA, shall be considered to be consistent with the NCP.

8. Permits.

a. As provided in Section 121(e) of CERCLA and Section 300.400(e) of the NCP, no permit shall be required for any portion of the Work conducted entirely on-site (i.e., within the areal extent of contamination or in very close proximity to the contamination and necessary for implementation of the Work). Where any portion of the Work that is not on-site requires a federal or state permit or approval, Settling Defendants shall submit timely and complete applications and take all other actions necessary to obtain all such permits or approvals.

b. Settling Defendants may seek relief under the provisions of Section XVIII (Force Majeure) for any delay in the performance of the Work resulting from a failure to obtain, or a delay in obtaining, any permit required for the Work.

c. This Consent Decree is not, and shall not be construed to be, a permit issued pursuant to any federal or state statute or regulation.

9. Notice to Successors-in-Title.

a. With respect to any property owned or controlled by the Owner Settling

Defendants that is located within the Site, within 15 days after the entry of this Consent Decree, the Owner Settling Defendants shall submit to EPA for review and approval a notice to be filed with the South Kingstown Town Clerk's Office or other appropriate office, which shall provide notice to all successors-in-title that the property is part of the Site, that EPA selected a remedy for the Site on September 28, 2006, and that potentially responsible parties have entered into a Consent Decree requiring implementation of the remedy. Such notices shall identify the United States District Court in which the Consent Decree was filed, the name and civil action number of this case, and the date the Consent Decree was entered by the Court. The Owner Settling Defendants shall record the notices within 10 days of EPA's approval of the notice(s). The Owner Settling Defendants shall provide EPA with a certified copy of the recorded notices within 10 days of recording such notices.

b. At least 30 days prior to the conveyance of any interest in property located within the Site including, but not limited to, fee interests, leasehold interests, and mortgage interests, the Owner Settling Defendants conveying the interest shall give the grantee written notice of (i) this Consent Decree, (ii) any instrument by which an interest in real property has been conveyed that confers a right of access to the Site (hereinafter referred to as "access easements") pursuant to Section IX (Access and Institutional Controls), and (iii) any instrument by which an interest in real property has been conveyed that confers a right to enforce restrictions on the use of such property (hereinafter referred to as "restrictive easements") pursuant to Section IX (Access and Institutional Controls). At least 30 days prior to such conveyance, the Owner Settling Defendants conveying the interest shall also give written notice to EPA and the State of the proposed conveyance, including the name and address of the grantee, and the date on which notice of the Consent Decree, access easements, and/or restrictive easements was given to the

grantee.

c. In the event of any conveyance, the Owner Settling Defendant's obligations under this Consent Decree, including, but not limited to, its obligation to provide or secure access and institutional controls, as well as to abide by such institutional controls, pursuant to Section IX (Access and Institutional Controls) of this Consent Decree, shall continue to be met by the Owner Settling Defendant(s). In no event shall the conveyance release or otherwise affect the liability of the Owner Settling Defendant(s) to comply with all provisions of this Consent Decree, absent the prior written consent of EPA, after reasonable opportunity for review and comment by the State. If the United States approves, the grantee may perform some or all of the Work under this Consent Decree.

VI. PERFORMANCE OF THE WORK BY SETTLING DEFENDANTS

10. Settling Defendants shall perform the Work for the Site as described in this Consent Decree; in the ROD attached as Appendix A; in the SOW (which the Parties agree is consistent with the ROD) attached as Appendix B; and any modifications thereto. The ROD, the SOW, and all modifications to the SOW, are hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of this Decree. The Work shall be performed in accordance with all the provisions of this Decree, the SOW, any modifications to the SOW, and all design specifications or other plans or schedules attached to or approved pursuant to the SOW.

11. Selection of Supervising Contractor.

a. All aspects of the Work to be performed by Settling Defendants pursuant to Sections VI (Performance of the Work by Settling Defendants), VII (Remedy Review), VIII (Quality Assurance, Sampling and Data Analysis), and XV (Emergency Response) shall be under the direction and supervision of the Supervising Contractor, the selection of which shall be

subject to disapproval by EPA, after a reasonable opportunity for review and comment by the State. Within 14 days after the lodging of this Consent Decree, Settling Defendants shall notify EPA and the State in writing of the name, title, and qualifications of any contractor proposed to be the Supervising Contractor. With respect to any contractor proposed to be Supervising Contractor, Settling Defendants shall demonstrate that the proposed contractor has a quality system that complies with ANSI/ASQ E4-2004, "Quality Systems for Environmental Data and Technology Programs: Requirements with Guidance for Use," by submitting a copy of the proposed contractor's Quality Management Plan (QMP). The QMP should be prepared in accordance with "EPA Requirements for Quality Management Plans (QA/R-2)" (EPA/240/B-01/002, March 2001) or equivalent documentation as determined by EPA. EPA will issue a notice of disapproval or an authorization to proceed. If at any time thereafter, Settling Defendants propose to change a Supervising Contractor, Settling Defendants shall give such notice to EPA and the State and must obtain an authorization to proceed from EPA, after a reasonable opportunity for review and comment by the State, before the new Supervising Contractor performs, directs, or supervises any Work under this Consent Decree.

b. If EPA disapproves a proposed Supervising Contractor, EPA will notify Settling Defendants in writing. Settling Defendants shall submit to EPA and the State a list of contractors, including the qualifications of each contractor, that would be acceptable to them within 30 days of receipt of EPA's disapproval of the contractor previously proposed. EPA will provide written notice of the names of any contractor(s) that it disapproves and an authorization to proceed with respect to any of the other contractors. Settling Defendants may select any contractor from that list that is not disapproved and shall notify EPA and the State of the name of the contractor selected within 21 days of EPA's authorization to proceed.

c. If EPA fails to provide written notice of its authorization to proceed or disapproval as provided in this Paragraph and this failure prevents Settling Defendants from meeting one or more deadlines in a plan approved by the EPA pursuant to this Consent Decree, such failure shall entitle Settling Defendants to seek relief under the provisions of Section XVIII (Force Majeure) hereof.

12. Remedial Design.

a. Consistent with the deadlines provided in the SOW, Settling Defendants shall submit to EPA and the State the deliverables required as part of the Remedial Design, as set forth in Section V of the SOW, including, but not limited to, a work plan for the design of the Remedial Action at the Site (“Remedial Design and Pilot Studies Work Plan”) and a series of remedial design reports (“Remedial Design Reports”). The Remedial Design and Pilot Studies Work Plan and the Remedial Design Reports shall provide for design of the remedy set forth in the ROD, in accordance with the SOW, and for achievement of the Performance Standards and other requirements set forth in the ROD, this Consent Decree and/or the SOW. Upon its approval by EPA, the Remedial Design and Pilot Studies Work Plan and the Remedial Design Reports shall be incorporated into and become enforceable under this Consent Decree.

Consistent with the deadlines provided in the SOW, Settling Defendants shall submit to EPA and the State a Health and Safety Plan for field design activities which conforms to the applicable Occupational Safety and Health Administration and EPA requirements including, but not limited to, 29 C.F.R. § 1910.120.

b. Settling Defendants shall implement the Remedial Design and Pilot Studies Work Plan and the final remedial design in the final Remedial Design Report upon approval of these deliverables by EPA, after a reasonable opportunity for review and comment by

the State. Settling Defendants shall submit to EPA and the State all plans, submissions and other deliverables required under the approved Remedial Design and Pilot Studies Work Plan and Remedial Design Reports in accordance with the approved schedule for review and approval pursuant to Section XI (EPA Approval of Plans and Other Submissions). Unless otherwise directed by EPA, Settling Defendants shall not commence further Remedial Design activities at the Site prior to approval of the Remedial Design and Pilot Studies Work Plan. Upon approval by EPA of the other Remedial Design deliverables required under the SOW, Settling Defendants shall implement the activities required by such deliverables.

13. Remedial Action.

a. Consistent with the deadlines provided in the SOW, Settling Defendants shall submit to EPA and the State the deliverables required as part of the Remedial Action, as set forth in Section VI of the SOW, including, but not limited to, a work plan for the performance of the Remedial Action at the Site ("Remedial Action Work Plan"). The Remedial Action Work Plan shall provide for construction and implementation of the remedy set forth in the ROD and achievement of the Performance Standards, in accordance with this Consent Decree, the ROD, the SOW, and the design plans and specifications developed in accordance with the Remedial Design and Pilot Studies Work Plan and the Remedial Design Reports and approved by EPA. Upon its approval by EPA, the Remedial Action Work Plan shall be incorporated into and become enforceable under this Consent Decree. As part of the Remedial Action Work Plan, Settling Defendants shall submit to EPA and the State a Health and Safety Plan for field activities required by the Remedial Action Work Plan which conforms to the applicable Occupational Safety and Health Administration and EPA requirements including, but not limited to, 29 C.F.R. § 1910.120, as described further in the SOW. Settling Defendants shall submit to

EPA for approval all other Remedial Action plans, submissions and deliverables described in the SOW, in accordance with the schedule set forth in the SOW and the approved Remedial Action Work Plan.

b. Within 15 days of the date EPA, after a reasonable opportunity for review and comment by the State, approves or modifies the Remedial Action Work Plan, Settling Defendants shall begin to implement the activities required under the Remedial Action Work Plan. Settling Defendants shall submit to EPA and the State all plans, submissions, or other deliverables required under the approved Remedial Action Work Plan in accordance with the approved schedule for review and approval pursuant to Section XI (EPA Approval of Plans and Other Submissions). Unless otherwise directed by EPA, Settling Defendants shall not commence physical Remedial Action activities at the Site prior to approval of the Remedial Action Work Plan. Upon approval by EPA of the other Remedial Action deliverables required under the SOW, Settling Defendants shall implement the activities required by such deliverables.

14. Settling Defendants shall continue to implement the Remedial Action and O & M until the Performance Standards are achieved and for so long thereafter as is otherwise required under this Consent Decree.

15. Modification of the SOW or Related Work Plans.

a. If EPA determines that modification to the work specified in the SOW and/or in work plans developed pursuant to the SOW is necessary to achieve and maintain the Performance Standards or to carry out and maintain the effectiveness of the remedy set forth in the ROD, EPA shall notify the Settling Defendants in writing and may require that such modification be incorporated in the SOW and/or such work plans, provided, however, that a modification may be required pursuant to this Paragraph only to the extent that it is consistent

with the scope of the remedy selected in the ROD. EPA will confer with the Settling Defendants prior to requiring a modification of the SOW or of the work plans developed pursuant to the SOW.

b. For the purposes of this Paragraph 15 and Paragraphs 53 and 54 only, the “scope of the remedy selected in the ROD” shall mean the actions described in Section L of the ROD, including, but not limited to, the following: (1) treatment of source area soils with chemical oxidation; (2) treatment of source area groundwater with chemical oxidation; (3) monitored natural attenuation of source area groundwater after treatment of the groundwater plume; (4) environmental monitoring; and (5) institutional controls in the form of land use restrictions to prevent use of groundwater.

c. If Settling Defendants object to any modification determined by EPA to be necessary pursuant to this Paragraph, they may seek dispute resolution pursuant to Section XIX (Dispute Resolution), Paragraph 71 (Record Review). The SOW and/or related work plans shall be modified in accordance with final resolution of the dispute.

d. Settling Defendants shall implement any work required by any modifications incorporated in the SOW and/or in work plans developed pursuant to the SOW in accordance with this Paragraph.

e. Nothing in this Paragraph shall be construed to limit EPA’s authority to require performance of further response actions as otherwise provided in this Consent Decree.

16. Settling Defendants acknowledge and agree that nothing in this Consent Decree, the SOW, or the Remedial Design and Pilot Studies Work Plan, the Remedial Design Reports, or the Remedial Action Work Plans constitutes a warranty or representation of any kind by Plaintiffs that compliance with the work requirements set forth in the SOW and the Work Plans

will achieve the Performance Standards.

17. a. Settling Defendants shall, prior to any off-Site shipment of Waste Material from the Site to an out-of-state waste management facility, provide written notification to the appropriate state environmental official in the receiving facility's state and to the EPA Project Coordinator of such shipment of Waste Material. However, this notification requirement shall not apply to any off-Site shipments when the total volume of all such shipments will not exceed 10 cubic yards.

(1) Settling Defendants shall include in the written notification the following information, where available: (1) the name and location of the facility to which the Waste Material is to be shipped; (2) the type and quantity of the Waste Material to be shipped; (3) the expected schedule for the shipment of the Waste Material; and (4) the method of transportation. Settling Defendants shall notify the state in which the planned receiving facility is located of major changes in the shipment plan, such as a decision to ship the Waste Material to another facility within the same state, or to a facility in another state.

(2) The identity of the receiving facility and state will be determined by Settling Defendants following the award of the contract for Remedial Action construction. Settling Defendants shall provide the information required by this subparagraph (a) as soon as practicable after the award of the contract and before the Waste Material is actually shipped.

b. Before shipping any hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants from the Site to an off-site location, Settling Defendants shall obtain EPA's certification that the proposed receiving facility is operating in compliance with the requirements of CERCLA Section 121(d)(3) and 40 C.F.R. 300.440. Settling Defendants shall send hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants from the Site only to an off-site facility that complies with the

requirements of the statutory provision and regulations cited in the preceding sentence.

VII. REMEDY REVIEW

18. Periodic Review. Settling Defendants shall conduct any studies and investigations as requested by EPA, in order to permit EPA to conduct reviews of whether the Remedial Action is protective of human health and the environment at least every five years as required by Section 121(c) of CERCLA and any applicable regulations. EPA will confer with the Settling Defendants prior to requiring performance of such studies and investigations.

19. EPA Selection of Further Response Actions. If EPA determines, at any time, that the Remedial Action is not protective of human health and the environment, EPA may select further response actions for the Site in accordance with the requirements of CERCLA and the NCP.

20. Opportunity To Comment. Settling Defendants and, if required by Sections 113(k)(2) or 117 of CERCLA, the public, will be provided with an opportunity to comment on any further response actions proposed by EPA as a result of the review conducted pursuant to Section 121(c) of CERCLA and to submit written comments for the record during the comment period.

21. Settling Defendants' Obligation To Perform Further Response Actions. If EPA selects further response actions for the Site, Settling Defendants shall undertake such further response actions to the extent that the reopener conditions in Paragraph 89 or Paragraph 90 (United States' reservations of liability based on unknown conditions or new information) are satisfied. Settling Defendants may invoke the procedures set forth in Section XIX (Dispute Resolution) to dispute (1) EPA's determination that the reopener conditions of Paragraph 89 or Paragraph 90 of Section XXI (Covenants by Plaintiffs) are satisfied, (2) EPA's determination that

the Remedial Action is not protective of human health and the environment, or (3) EPA's selection of the further response actions. Disputes pertaining to the whether the Remedial Action is protective or to EPA's selection of further response actions shall be resolved pursuant to Paragraph 71 (Record Review).

22. Submissions of Plans. If Settling Defendants are required to perform the further response actions pursuant to Paragraph 21, they shall submit a plan for such work to EPA for approval in accordance with the procedures set forth in Section VI (Performance of the Work by Settling Defendants) and shall implement the plan approved by EPA in accordance with the provisions of this Decree. EPA will confer with the Settling Defendants prior to requiring submission of such a plan.

VIII. QUALITY ASSURANCE, SAMPLING AND DATA ANALYSIS

23. Settling Defendants shall use quality assurance, quality control, and chain of custody procedures for all samples in accordance with "EPA Requirements for Quality Assurance Plans (QA/R5)" (EPA/240/B-01/003, March 2001), "Guidance for Quality Assurance Project Plans (QA/G-5)" (EPA/240/R-02/009, December 2002), "EPA New England Quality Assurance Project Plan Program Guidance," April 2005, and subsequent amendments to such guidelines upon notification by EPA to Settling Defendants of such amendment. Amended guidelines shall apply only to procedures conducted after such notification. Prior to the commencement of any sampling or monitoring project under this Consent Decree, Settling Defendants shall submit to EPA for approval, after a reasonable opportunity for review and comment by the State, a Sampling and Analysis Plan ("SAP"), which includes, among other things, a Quality Assurance Project Plan ("QAPP") that is consistent with the SOW, the NCP and applicable guidance documents. If relevant to the proceeding, the Parties agree that validated

sampling data generated in accordance with the QAPP(s) and reviewed and approved by EPA shall be admissible as evidence, without objection, in any proceeding under this Decree. Settling Defendants shall ensure that EPA and State personnel and their authorized representatives are allowed access at reasonable times to all laboratories utilized by Settling Defendants in implementing this Consent Decree. In addition, Settling Defendants shall ensure that such laboratories shall analyze all performance evaluation samples submitted by EPA pursuant to the QAPP for quality assurance monitoring. Settling Defendants shall ensure that the laboratories they utilize for the analysis of samples taken pursuant to this Decree perform all analyses according to accepted EPA methods. Accepted EPA methods consist of those methods which are documented in the "Contract Lab Program Statement of Work for Organic Analysis" (Multi-Media, Multi-Concentration Organics Analysis, SOMO1.1, which can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/superfund/programs/clp/som1.htm>) and the "Contract Lab Program Statement of Work for Inorganic Analysis," (Multi-Media, Multi-Concentration Inorganic Analysis, ILM05.3, which can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/superfund/programs/clp/ilm5.htm>), and any amendments made thereto during the course of the implementation of this Decree; however, upon approval by EPA, after opportunity for review and comment by the State, Settling Defendants may use other analytical methods which are as stringent as or more stringent than the CLP-approved methods. Settling Defendants shall contractually require all laboratories they use for analysis of samples taken pursuant to this Consent Decree to participate in an EPA or EPA-equivalent QA/QC program. Settling Defendants shall only use laboratories that have a documented Quality System which complies with ANSI/ASQ E4-2004, "Quality Systems for Environmental Data and Technology Programs: Requirements with Guidance for Use," and "EPA Requirements for Quality

Management Plans (QA/R-2),” (EPA/240/B-01/002, March 2001) or equivalent documentation as determined by EPA. EPA may consider laboratories accredited under the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (NELAP) as meeting the Quality System requirements. Settling Defendants shall ensure that all field methodologies utilized in collecting samples for subsequent analysis pursuant to this Decree will be conducted in accordance with the procedures set forth in the QAPP approved by EPA.

24. Upon request, Settling Defendants shall allow split or duplicate samples to be taken by EPA and the State or their authorized representatives. Settling Defendants shall notify EPA and the State not less than 21 days in advance of any sample collection activity unless shorter notice is agreed to by EPA. In addition, EPA and the State shall have the right to take any additional samples that EPA or the State deem necessary. Upon request, EPA and the State shall allow Settling Defendants to take split or duplicate samples of any samples they take as part of the Plaintiffs’ oversight of Settling Defendants’ implementation of the Work and shall upon request provide Settling Defendants with copies of any sampling data generated by EPA or the State.

25. Settling Defendants shall submit two hard copies and one electronic copy to EPA and one hard copy and one electronic copy to the State of the results of all sampling and/or tests or other data obtained or generated by or on behalf of Settling Defendants with respect to the Site and/or the implementation of this Consent Decree, unless EPA specifies or the approved QAPP provides for another number of copies.

26. Notwithstanding any provision of this Consent Decree, the United States and the State hereby retain all of their information-gathering and inspection authorities and rights, including enforcement actions related thereto, under CERCLA, RCRA and any other applicable

statutes or regulations.

IX. ACCESS AND INSTITUTIONAL CONTROLS

27. If the Site, or any other property where access and/or land/water use restrictions are needed to implement this Consent Decree, is owned or controlled by any of Settling Defendants, such Settling Defendants shall:

a. commencing on the date of lodging of this Consent Decree, provide the United States, the State, and their representatives, including EPA and its contractors, with access at all reasonable times to the Site, or such other property, for the purpose of conducting any activity related to this Consent Decree including, but not limited to, the following activities:

- (1) Monitoring the Work;
- (2) Verifying any data or information submitted to the United States or the State;
- (3) Conducting investigations relating to contamination at or near the Site;
- (4) Obtaining samples;
- (5) Assessing the need for, planning, or implementing additional response actions at or near the Site;
- (6) Assessing implementation of quality assurance and quality control practices as defined in the approved Quality Assurance Project Plans;
- (7) Implementing the Work pursuant to the conditions set forth in Paragraph 97 ;
- (8) Inspecting and copying records, operating logs, contracts, or other documents maintained or generated by Settling Defendants or their agents, consistent with

Section XXIV (Access to Information);

(9) Assessing Settling Defendants' compliance with this Consent Decree; and

(10) Determining whether the Site or other property is being used in a manner that is prohibited or restricted, or that may need to be prohibited or restricted, by or pursuant to this Consent Decree.

b. commencing on the date of lodging of this Consent Decree, refrain from using the Site, or such other property, in any manner that would interfere with or adversely affect the implementation, integrity, or protectiveness of the remedial measures to be performed pursuant to this Consent Decree. Such restrictions include, but are not limited to: (1) prohibiting activities that could harm the capped areas of the Site; (2) the restrictions described in sections III.4 and V.A.3 (describing the Institutional Control Plan) of the SOW.

c. execute and record with the Town Clerk, Town of South Kingstown, County of Washington, State of Rhode Island, an easement, running with the land, that (i) grants a right of access for the purpose of conducting any activity related to this Consent Decree including, but not limited to, those activities listed in Paragraph 27.a, and (ii) grants the right to enforce the land/water use restrictions described in sections III.4 and V.A.3 (describing the Institutional Control Plan) of the SOW, or other restrictions that EPA (after reasonable opportunity for review and comment by the State) determines are necessary to implement, ensure non-interference with, or ensure the protectiveness of the remedial measures to be performed pursuant to this Consent Decree. Such Settling Defendants shall grant the access rights and the rights to enforce the land/water use restrictions to one or more of the following persons, as determined by EPA: (i) the United States, on behalf of EPA, and its representatives, (ii) the State

and its representatives, (iii) the other Settling Defendants and their representatives, and/or (iv) other appropriate grantees. Such Settling Defendants shall, as per the schedule in the approved or modified Institutional Control Plan, submit to EPA for review and approval with respect to such property:

(1) A draft easement, in substantially the form attached hereto as Appendix D, that is enforceable under the laws of the State of Rhode Island, free and clear of all prior liens and encumbrances (except as approved by EPA); and

(2) a current title commitment or report prepared in accordance with generally recognized standards applied by title companies licensed to conduct business in the State of Rhode Island.

Within 15 days of approval of the easement by EPA and the State, such Settling Defendants shall update the title search and, if it is determined that nothing has occurred since the effective date of the commitment to affect the title adversely, record the easement with the Town Clerk, Town of South Kingstown, County of Washington, State of Rhode Island. Within 30 days of recording the easement, such Settling Defendants shall provide the State with a final title insurance policy, or other final evidence of title acceptable to the State and EPA, and a certified copy of the original recorded easement showing the clerk's recording stamps.

28. If the Site, or any other property where access and/or land/water use restrictions are needed to implement this Consent Decree, is owned or controlled by persons other than any of the Settling Defendants, Settling Defendants shall use best efforts to secure from such persons:

a. an agreement to provide access thereto for Settling Defendants, as well as for the United States on behalf of EPA, and the State, as well as their representatives (including contractors), for the purpose of conducting any activity related to this Consent Decree including,

but not limited to, those activities listed in Paragraph 27.a;

b. an agreement, enforceable by EPA, the State and/or the Settling Defendants (as EPA determines to be appropriate) to abide by the obligations and restrictions described in sections III.4 and V.A.3 (describing the Institutional Control Plan) of the SOW, or that are otherwise necessary to implement, ensure non-interference with, or ensure the protectiveness of the remedial measures to be performed pursuant to this Consent Decree; and

c. the execution and recordation with the Town Clerk, Town of South Kingstown, County of Washington, State of Rhode Island, of an easement, running with the land, that (i) grants a right of access for the purpose of conducting any activity related to this Consent Decree including, but not limited to, those activities listed in Paragraph 27.a, and (ii) grants the right to enforce the land/water use restrictions described in sections III.4 and V.A.3 (describing the Institutional Control Plan) of the SOW, or other restrictions that EPA (after reasonable opportunity for review and comment by the State) determines are necessary to implement, ensure non-interference with, or ensure the protectiveness of the remedial measures to be performed pursuant to this Consent Decree. The access rights and/or rights to enforce land/water use restrictions shall be granted to one or more of the following persons, as determined by EPA: (i) the United States, on behalf of EPA, and its representatives, (ii) the State and its representatives, (iii) the Settling Defendants and their representatives, and/or (iv) other appropriate grantees. Under the schedule in the approved or modified Institutional Control Plan, Settling Defendants shall submit to EPA for review and approval with respect to such property:

(1) A draft easement, in substantially the form attached hereto as Appendix D, that is enforceable under the laws of the State of Rhode Island, free and clear of all prior liens and encumbrances (except as approved by EPA); and

(2) a current title commitment or report prepared in accordance with generally recognized standards applied by title companies licensed to conduct business in the State of Rhode Island.

Within 15 days of approval of the easement by EPA and the State, Settling Defendants shall update the title search and, if it is determined that nothing has occurred since the effective date of the commitment or report to affect the title adversely, the easement shall be recorded with the Town Clerk, Town of South Kingstown, County of Washington, State of Rhode Island. Within 30 days of recording the easement, such Settling Defendants shall provide the State with a final title insurance policy, or other final evidence of title acceptable to the State and EPA, and a certified copy of the original recorded easement showing the clerk's recording stamps.

29. For purposes of Paragraph 28, "best efforts" includes the payment of reasonable sums of money in consideration of access, access easements, land/water use restrictions, restrictive easements, and/or an agreement to release or subordinate a prior lien or encumbrance. If (a) any access or land/water use restriction agreements required by Paragraphs 28.a or 28.b are not obtained as per the schedule in the approved or modified Institutional Control Plan, (b) any access easements or restrictive easements required by Paragraph 28.c are not submitted to EPA in draft form as per the schedule in the approved or modified Institutional Control Plan, or (c) Settling Defendants are unable to obtain an agreement pursuant to Paragraph 27.c(1) or Paragraph 28.c(1) from the holder of a prior lien or encumbrance to release or subordinate such lien or encumbrance to the easement being created pursuant to this consent decree as per the schedule in the approved or modified Institutional Control Plan, Settling Defendants shall promptly notify the United States and the State in writing, and shall include in that notification a summary of the steps that Settling Defendants have taken to attempt to comply with

Paragraph 27 or 28. The United States may, as it deems appropriate, and after reasonable opportunity for review and comment by the State, assist Settling Defendants in obtaining access or land/water use restrictions, either in the form of contractual agreements or in the form of easements running with the land, or in obtaining the release or subordination of a prior lien or encumbrance. Settling Defendants shall reimburse the United States in accordance with the procedures in Paragraph 57.a (Payments by Settling Defendants to EPA), for all costs incurred, direct or indirect, by the United States in obtaining such access, land/water use restrictions, and/or the release/subordination of prior liens or encumbrances including, but not limited to, the cost of attorney time and the amount of monetary consideration paid or just compensation.

30. If EPA determines that land/water use restrictions in the form of state or local laws, regulations, ordinances or other governmental controls are needed to implement the remedy selected in the ROD, ensure the integrity and protectiveness thereof, or ensure non-interference therewith, Settling Defendants shall cooperate with EPA's and the State's efforts to secure such governmental controls.

31. Notwithstanding any provision of this Consent Decree, the United States and the State retain all of their access authorities and rights, as well as all of their rights to require land/water use restrictions, including enforcement authorities related thereto, under CERCLA, RCRA and any other applicable statute or regulations.

X. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

32. In addition to any other requirement of this Consent Decree, Settling Defendants shall submit two hard copies and one electronic copy to EPA and one hard copy and one electronic copy to the State (or such other number of copies, if specified by EPA or the State) of written monthly progress reports that: (a) describe the actions which have been taken toward

achieving compliance with this Consent Decree during the previous month; (b) include a summary of all results of sampling and tests and all other data received or generated by Settling Defendants or their contractors or agents in the previous month; (c) identify all work plans, plans and other deliverables required by this Consent Decree completed and submitted during the previous month; (d) describe all actions, including, but not limited to, data collection and implementation of work plans, which are scheduled for the next six weeks and provide other information relating to the progress of construction, including, but not limited to, critical path diagrams, Gantt charts and Pert charts; (e) include information regarding percentage of completion, unresolved delays encountered or anticipated that may affect the future schedule for implementation of the Work, and a description of efforts made to mitigate those delays or anticipated delays; (f) include any modifications to the work plans or other schedules that Settling Defendants have proposed to EPA or that have been approved by EPA; and (g) describe all activities undertaken in support of the Community Relations Plan during the previous month and those to be undertaken in the next six weeks. Settling Defendants shall submit these progress reports to EPA and the State by the tenth day of every month following the lodging of this Consent Decree until EPA notifies Settling Defendants pursuant to Paragraph 54.b of Section XIV (Certification of Completion). If requested by EPA or the State, Settling Defendants shall also provide briefings for EPA and the State to discuss the progress of the Work.

33. Settling Defendants shall notify EPA and the State of any change in the schedule described in the monthly progress report for the performance of any activity, including, but not limited to, data collection and implementation of work plans, no later than seven (7) days prior to the performance of the activity.

34. Upon the occurrence of any event during performance of the Work that Settling

Defendants are required to report pursuant to Section 103 of CERCLA or Section 304 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-know Act (EPCRA), Settling Defendants shall, no later than the time required for any notification under Section 103(a) of CERCLA or Section 304(b) of EPCRA, orally notify the EPA Project Coordinator or the Alternate EPA Project Coordinator (in the event of the unavailability of the EPA Project Coordinator), or, in the event that neither the EPA Project Coordinator or Alternate EPA Project Coordinator is available, the Emergency Response Section, Region 1, United States Environmental Protection Agency. These reporting requirements are in addition to the reporting required by CERCLA Section 103 or EPCRA Section 304.

35. Within 20 days of the time required for a notification of such event under Section 103(a) of CERCLA or Section 304(b) of EPCRA, Settling Defendants shall furnish to Plaintiffs a written report, signed by Settling Defendants' Project Coordinator, setting forth the events which occurred and the measures taken, and to be taken, in response thereto. Within 30 days of the later of the conclusion of such event or the time required for a notification of such event under Section 103(a) of CERCLA or Section 304(b) of EPCRA, Settling Defendants shall submit a report setting forth all actions taken in response thereto.

36. Settling Defendants shall submit two hard copies and one electronic copy (or such other number of copies, if specified by EPA) of all plans, reports, and data required by the SOW, the Remedial Design and Pilot Studies Work Plan, the Remedial Design Reports, the Remedial Action Work Plan, or any other approved plans to EPA in accordance with the schedules set forth in such plans. Settling Defendants shall simultaneously submit one hard copy and one electronic copy (or such other number of copies, if specified by the State) of all such plans, reports and data to the State. Upon request by EPA Settling Defendants shall submit in electronic form all

portions of any report or other deliverable Settling Defendants are required to submit pursuant to the provisions of this Consent Decree.

37. All reports and other documents submitted by Settling Defendants to EPA and/or the State (other than the monthly progress reports referred to above) which purport to document Settling Defendants' compliance with the terms of this Consent Decree shall be signed by an authorized representative of Settling Defendants.

XI. EPA APPROVAL OF PLANS AND OTHER SUBMISSIONS

38. After review of any plan, report or other item which is required to be submitted for approval pursuant to this Consent Decree, EPA, after reasonable opportunity for review and comment by the State, shall: (a) approve, in whole or in part, the submission; (b) approve the submission upon specified conditions; (c) modify the submission to cure the deficiencies; (d) disapprove, in whole or in part, the submission, directing that Settling Defendants modify the submission; or (e) any combination of the above. However, EPA shall not modify a submission without first providing Settling Defendants at least one notice of deficiency and an opportunity to cure within 7 days, except where to do so would cause serious disruption to the Work or where previous submission(s) have been disapproved due to material defect(s) or where the deficiencies in the submission under consideration indicate a bad-faith lack of effort to submit an acceptable deliverable.

39. In the event of approval, approval upon conditions, or modification by EPA, pursuant to Paragraph 38(a), (b), or (c), Settling Defendants shall proceed to take any action required by the plan, report, or other item, as approved or modified by EPA subject only to their right to invoke the Dispute Resolution procedures set forth in Section XIX (Dispute Resolution) with respect to the modifications or conditions made by EPA. In the event that EPA modifies the

submission to cure the deficiencies pursuant to Paragraph 38(c) and the submission has a material defect, EPA retains its right to seek stipulated penalties, as provided in Section XX (Stipulated Penalties).

40. Resubmission of Plans.

a. Upon receipt of a notice of disapproval pursuant to Paragraph 38(d), Settling Defendants shall, within 14 days or such longer time as specified by EPA in such notice, correct the deficiencies and resubmit the plan, report, or other item for approval. Any stipulated penalties applicable to the submission, as provided in Section XX, shall accrue during the 14-day period or otherwise specified period but shall not be payable unless the resubmission is disapproved or modified due to a material defect as provided in Paragraphs 41 and 42.

b. Notwithstanding the receipt of a notice of disapproval pursuant to Paragraph 38(d), Settling Defendants shall proceed, at the direction of EPA, to take any action required by any non-deficient portion of the submission. Implementation of any non-deficient portion of a submission shall not relieve Settling Defendants of any liability for stipulated penalties under Section XX (Stipulated Penalties).

41. In the event that a resubmitted plan, report or other item, or portion thereof, is disapproved by EPA, EPA may again require Settling Defendants to correct the deficiencies, in accordance with the preceding Paragraphs. EPA also retains the right to modify or develop the plan, report or other item. Settling Defendants shall implement any such plan, report, or item as modified or developed by EPA, subject only to their right to invoke the procedures set forth in Section XIX (Dispute Resolution).

42. If upon resubmission, a plan, report, or item is disapproved or modified by EPA due to a material defect, Settling Defendants shall be deemed to have failed to submit such plan,

report, or item timely and adequately unless Settling Defendants invoke the dispute resolution procedures set forth in Section XIX (Dispute Resolution) and EPA's action is overturned pursuant to that Section. The provisions of Section XIX (Dispute Resolution) and Section XX (Stipulated Penalties) shall govern the implementation of the Work and accrual and payment of any stipulated penalties during Dispute Resolution. If EPA's disapproval or modification is upheld, stipulated penalties shall accrue for such violation from the date on which the initial submission was originally required, as provided in Section XX.

43. All plans, reports, and other items required to be submitted to EPA under this Consent Decree shall, upon approval or modification by EPA, be enforceable under this Consent Decree. In the event EPA approves or modifies a portion of a plan, report, or other item required to be submitted to EPA under this Consent Decree, the approved or modified portion shall be enforceable under this Consent Decree.

XII. PROJECT COORDINATORS

44. Within 10 days of lodging this Consent Decree, Settling Defendants, the State and EPA will notify each other, in writing, of the name, address and telephone number of their respective designated Project Coordinators and Alternate Project Coordinators. If a Project Coordinator or Alternate Project Coordinator initially designated is changed, the identity of the successor will be given to the other Parties at least 5 working days before the changes occur, unless impracticable, but in no event later than the actual day the change is made. Settling Defendants' Project Coordinator shall be subject to disapproval by EPA and shall have the technical expertise sufficient to adequately oversee all aspects of the Work. Settling Defendants' Project Coordinator shall not be an attorney for any of the Settling Defendants in this matter. He or she may assign other representatives, including other contractors, to serve as a Site

representative for oversight of performance of daily operations during remedial activities.

45. Plaintiffs may designate other representatives, including, but not limited to, EPA and State employees, and federal and State contractors and consultants, to observe and monitor the progress of any activity undertaken pursuant to this Consent Decree. EPA's Project Coordinator and Alternate Project Coordinator shall have the authority lawfully vested in a Remedial Project Manager (RPM) and an On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) by the National Contingency Plan, 40 C.F.R. Part 300. In addition, EPA's Project Coordinator or Alternate Project Coordinator shall have authority, consistent with the National Contingency Plan, to halt any Work required by this Consent Decree and to take any necessary response action when s/he determines that conditions at the Site constitute an emergency situation or may present an immediate threat to public health or welfare or the environment due to release or threatened release of Waste Material.

46. EPA's Project Coordinator, the State Project Coordinator, and Settling Defendants' Project Coordinator will meet, at a minimum, on a monthly basis.

XIII. PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE

47. a. In order to ensure the full and final completion of the Work, Settling Defendants shall establish and maintain a Performance Guarantee for the benefit of EPA in the amount of \$2,343,000 (hereinafter "Estimated Cost of the Work") in one or more of the following forms, which must be satisfactory in form and substance to EPA, or in any other form approved in writing by EPA in its sole and unreviewable discretion:

b. A surety bond unconditionally guaranteeing payment and/or performance of the Work that is issued by a surety company among those listed as acceptable sureties on Federal bonds as set forth in Circular 570 of the U.S. Department of the Treasury;

c. One or more irrevocable letters of credit, payable to or at the direction of EPA, that is issued by one or more financial institution(s) (i) that has the authority to issue letters of credit and (ii) whose letter-of-credit operations are regulated and examined by a U.S. Federal or State agency;

d. A demonstration by one or more Settling Defendants that each such Settling Defendant meets the financial test criteria of 40 C.F.R. § 264.143(f) with respect to the Estimated Cost of the Work, provided that all other requirements of 40 C.F.R. § 264.143(f) are satisfied;

e. A trust fund established for the benefit of EPA that is administered by a trustee (i) that has the authority to act as a trustee and (ii) whose trust operations are regulated and examined by a U.S. Federal or State agency; or

f. A policy of insurance that (i) provides EPA with acceptable rights as a beneficiary thereof; and (ii) is issued by an insurance carrier (a) that has the authority to issue insurance policies in the applicable jurisdiction(s) and (b) whose insurance operations are regulated and examined by a State agency.

48. If Settling Defendants seek to demonstrate their ability to complete the Work by means of the financial test pursuant to Paragraph 47.d, they shall resubmit sworn statements conveying the information required by 40 C.F.R. Part 264.143(f) annually, on the anniversary of the Effective Date. In the event that EPA, after a reasonable opportunity for review and comment by the State, determines at any time that the financial assurances provided pursuant to this Section are inadequate, Settling Defendants shall, within 30 days of receipt of notice of EPA's determination, obtain and present to EPA for approval one of the other forms of financial assurance listed in Paragraph 47.a of this Consent Decree. Settling Defendants' inability to

demonstrate financial ability to complete the Work shall not excuse performance of any activities required under this Consent Decree.

49. Pursuant to Paragraph 47.a, Settling Defendants have selected, and EPA has approved, an annual certification letter from the chief financial officer of the University of Rhode Island as an initial Performance Guarantee, in the form attached hereto as Appendix E. Within ten days after entry of this Consent Decree, Settling Defendants shall execute or otherwise finalize all instruments or other documents required in order to make the selected Performance Guarantee(s) legally binding in a form substantially identical to the documents attached hereto as Appendix E, and such Performance Guarantee(s) shall thereupon be fully effective. Within thirty days of entry of this Consent Decree, Settling Defendants shall submit all executed and/or otherwise finalized instruments or other documents required in order to make the selected Performance Guarantee(s) legally binding to the EPA Regional Financial Management Officer in accordance with Section XXVI ("Notices and Submissions"), with a copy to the Regional Financial Assurance Specialist, the United States, EPA and the State as specified in Section XXVI.

50. In the event that EPA determines at any time that a Performance Guarantee provided by any Settling Defendant pursuant to this Section is inadequate or otherwise no longer satisfies the requirements set forth in this Section, whether due to an increase in the estimated cost of completing the Work or for any other reason, or in the event that any Settling Defendant becomes aware of information indicating that a Performance Guarantee provided pursuant to this Section is inadequate or otherwise no longer satisfies the requirements set forth in this Section, whether due to an increase in the estimated cost of completing the Work or for any other reason, Settling Defendants, within thirty days of receipt of notice of EPA's determination or, as the case

may be, within thirty days of any Settling Defendant becoming aware of such information, shall obtain and present to EPA for approval a proposal for a revised or alternative form of Performance Guarantee listed in Paragraph 47.a that satisfies all requirements set forth in this Section XIII. In seeking approval for a revised or alternative form of Performance Guarantee, Settling Defendants shall follow the procedures set forth in Paragraph 52.b.(2). Settling Defendants' inability to post a Performance Guarantee for completion of the Work shall in no way excuse performance of any other requirements of this Consent Decree, including, without limitation, the obligation of Settling Defendants to complete the Work in strict accordance with the terms hereof.

51. The commencement of any Work Takeover pursuant to Paragraph 97 shall trigger EPA's right to receive the benefit of any Performance Guarantee(s) provided pursuant to Paragraph 47.a and at such time EPA shall have immediate access to resources guaranteed under any such Performance Guarantee(s), whether in cash or in kind, as needed to continue and complete the Work assumed by EPA under the Work Takeover. If for any reason EPA is unable to promptly secure the resources guaranteed under any such Performance Guarantee(s), whether in cash or in kind, necessary to continue and complete the Work assumed by EPA under the Work Takeover, or in the event the Performance Guarantee involves a demonstration of satisfaction of the financial test criteria pursuant to Paragraph 47.d, Settling Defendants shall immediately upon written demand from EPA deposit into an account specified by EPA, in immediately available funds and without setoff, counterclaim, or condition of any kind, a cash amount up to but not exceeding the estimated cost of the remaining Work to be performed as of such date, as determined by EPA.

52. Modification of Amount and/or Form of Performance Guarantee.

a. Reduction of Amount of Performance Guarantee. If Settling Defendants believe that the estimated cost to complete the remaining Work has diminished below the amount set forth in Paragraph 47.a, Settling Defendants may, on any anniversary date of entry of this Consent Decree, or at any other time agreed to by the Parties, petition EPA in writing to request a reduction in the amount of the Performance Guarantee provided pursuant to this Section so that the amount of the Performance Guarantee is equal to the estimated cost of the remaining Work to be performed. Settling Defendants shall submit a written proposal for such reduction to EPA that shall specify, at a minimum, the cost of the remaining Work to be performed and the basis upon which such cost was calculated. In seeking approval for a revised or alternative form of Performance Guarantee, Settling Defendants shall follow the procedures set forth in Paragraph 52.b.(2). If EPA decides to accept such a proposal, EPA shall notify the petitioning Settling Defendants of such decision in writing. After receiving EPA's written acceptance, Settling Defendants may reduce the amount of the Performance Guarantee in accordance with and to the extent permitted by such written acceptance. In the event of a dispute, Settling Defendants may reduce the amount of the Performance Guarantee required hereunder only in accordance with a final administrative or judicial decision resolving such dispute. No change to the form or terms of any Performance Guarantee provided under this Section, other than a reduction in amount, is authorized except as provided in Paragraph 52.b.

b. Change of Form of Performance Guarantee.

(1) If, after entry of this Consent Decree, Settling Defendants desire to change the form or terms of any Performance Guarantee(s) provided pursuant to this Section, Settling Defendants may, on any anniversary date of entry of this Consent Decree, or at any other time agreed to by the Parties, petition EPA in writing to request a

change in the form of the Performance Guarantee provided hereunder. The submission of such proposed revised or alternative form of Performance Guarantee shall be as provided in Paragraph 52.b.(2). Any decision made by EPA on a petition submitted under this Subparagraph (b)(1) shall be made in EPA's sole and unreviewable discretion, and such decision shall not be subject to challenge by Settling Defendants pursuant to the dispute resolution provisions of this Consent Decree or in any other forum.

(2) Settling Defendants shall submit a written proposal for a revised or alternative form of Performance Guarantee to EPA which shall specify, at a minimum, the estimated cost of the remaining Work to be performed, the basis upon which such cost was calculated, and the proposed revised form of Performance Guarantee, including all proposed instruments or other documents required in order to make the proposed Performance Guarantee legally binding. The proposed revised or alternative form of Performance Guarantee must satisfy all requirements set forth or incorporated by reference in this Section. Settling Defendants shall submit such proposed revised or alternative form of Performance Guarantee to the EPA Regional Financial Management Officer, with a copy to the Regional Financial Assurance Specialist in accordance with Section XXVI ("Notices and Submissions"). EPA shall notify Settling Defendants in writing of its decision to accept or reject a revised or alternative Performance Guarantee submitted pursuant to this Subparagraph. Within ten days after receiving a written decision approving the proposed revised or alternative Performance Guarantee, Settling Defendants shall execute and/or otherwise finalize all instruments or other documents required in order to make the selected Performance Guarantee(s) legally binding in a form substantially identical to the documents submitted to EPA as part of the proposal, and

such Performance Guarantee(s) shall thereupon be fully effective. Settling Defendants shall submit all executed and/or otherwise finalized instruments or other documents required in order to make the selected Performance Guarantee(s) legally binding to the EPA Regional Financial Management Officer within thirty days of receiving a written decision approving the proposed revised or alternative Performance Guarantee in accordance with Section XXVI ("Notices and Submissions"), with copies to the Regional Financial Assurance Specialist, the United States, EPA and the State as specified in Section XXVI.

c. Release of Performance Guarantee. If Settling Defendants receive written notice from EPA in accordance with Paragraph 54 that the Work has been fully and finally completed in accordance with the terms of this Consent Decree, or if EPA otherwise so notifies Settling Defendants in writing, Settling Defendants may thereafter release, cancel, or discontinue the Performance Guarantee(s) provided pursuant to this Section. Settling Defendants shall not release, cancel, or discontinue any Performance Guarantee provided pursuant to this Section except as provided in this Paragraph. In the event of a dispute, Settling Defendants may release, cancel, or discontinue the Performance Guarantee(s) required hereunder only in accordance with a final administrative or judicial decision resolving such dispute.

XIV. CERTIFICATION OF COMPLETION

53. Completion of the Remedial Action.

a. Within 90 days after Settling Defendants conclude that the Remedial Action has been fully performed and the Performance Standards have been attained, Settling Defendants shall schedule and conduct a pre-certification inspection to be attended by Settling Defendants, EPA, and the State. If, after the pre-certification inspection, Settling Defendants still

believe that the Remedial Action has been fully performed and the Performance Standards have been attained, they shall submit a written report requesting certification to EPA for approval, with a copy to the State, pursuant to Section XI (EPA Approval of Plans and Other Submissions) within 30 days of the inspection. In the report, a registered professional engineer and Settling Defendants' Project Coordinator shall state that the Remedial Action has been completed in full satisfaction of the requirements of this Consent Decree. The written report shall include as-built drawings signed and stamped by a professional engineer. The report shall contain the following statement, signed by a responsible official of a Settling Defendant or Settling Defendants' Project Coordinator:

To the best of my knowledge, after thorough investigation, I certify that the information contained in or accompanying this submission is true, accurate and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

If, after completion of the pre-certification inspection and receipt and review of the written report, EPA, after reasonable opportunity to review and comment by the State, determines that the Remedial Action or any portion thereof has not been completed in accordance with this Consent Decree or that the Performance Standards have not been achieved, EPA will notify Settling Defendants in writing of the activities that must be undertaken by Settling Defendants pursuant to this Consent Decree to complete the Remedial Action and achieve the Performance Standards, provided, however, that EPA may require Settling Defendants to perform such activities pursuant to this Paragraph only to the extent that such activities are consistent with the "scope of the remedy selected in the ROD," as that term is defined in Paragraph 15.b. EPA will set forth in the notice a schedule for performance of such activities consistent with the Consent Decree and the SOW or require Settling Defendants to submit a schedule to EPA for approval

pursuant to Section XI (EPA Approval of Plans and Other Submissions). Settling Defendants shall perform all activities described in the notice in accordance with the specifications and schedules established pursuant to this Paragraph, subject to their right to invoke the dispute resolution procedures set forth in Section XIX (Dispute Resolution).

b. If EPA concludes, based on the initial or any subsequent report requesting Certification of Completion and after a reasonable opportunity for review and comment by the State, that the Remedial Action has been performed in accordance with this Consent Decree and that the Performance Standards have been achieved, EPA will so certify in writing to Settling Defendants. This certification shall constitute the Certification of Completion of the Remedial Action for purposes of this Consent Decree, including, but not limited to, Section XXI (Covenants by Plaintiffs). Certification of Completion of the Remedial Action shall not affect Settling Defendants' obligations under this Consent Decree.

54. Completion of the Work.

a. Within 90 days after Settling Defendants conclude that all phases of the Work (including O & M) have been fully performed, Settling Defendants shall schedule and conduct a pre-certification inspection to be attended by Settling Defendants, EPA and the State. If, after the pre-certification inspection, Settling Defendants still believe that the Work has been fully performed, Settling Defendants shall submit a written report by a registered professional engineer stating that the Work has been completed in full satisfaction of the requirements of this Consent Decree. The report shall contain the following statement, signed by a responsible official of a Settling Defendant or Settling Defendants' Project Coordinator:

To the best of my knowledge, after thorough investigation, I certify that the information contained in or accompanying this submission is true, accurate and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing

violations.

If, after review of the written report, EPA, after reasonable opportunity to review and comment by the State, determines that any portion of the Work has not been completed in accordance with this Consent Decree, EPA will notify Settling Defendants in writing of the activities that must be undertaken by Settling Defendants pursuant to this Consent Decree to complete the Work, provided, however, that EPA may require Settling Defendants to perform such activities pursuant to this Paragraph only to the extent that such activities are consistent with the “scope of the remedy selected in the ROD,” as that term is defined in Paragraph 15.b. EPA will set forth in the notice a schedule for performance of such activities consistent with the Consent Decree and the SOW or require Settling Defendants to submit a schedule to EPA for approval pursuant to Section XI (EPA Approval of Plans and Other Submissions). Settling Defendants shall perform all activities described in the notice in accordance with the specifications and schedules established therein, subject to their right to invoke the dispute resolution procedures set forth in Section XIX (Dispute Resolution).

b. If EPA concludes, based on the initial or any subsequent request for Certification of Completion by Settling Defendants and after a reasonable opportunity for review and comment by the State, that the Work has been performed in accordance with this Consent Decree, EPA will so notify Settling Defendants in writing.

XV. EMERGENCY RESPONSE

55. In the event of any action or occurrence during the performance of the Work which causes or threatens a release of Waste Material from the Site that constitutes an emergency situation or may present an immediate threat to public health or welfare or the environment, Settling Defendants shall, subject to Paragraph 56, immediately take all appropriate action to

prevent, abate, or minimize such release or threat of release, and shall immediately notify EPA's Project Coordinator, or, if the Project Coordinator is unavailable, EPA's Alternate Project Coordinator. If neither of these persons is available, Settling Defendants shall notify the EPA Emergency Response Unit, Region 1. Settling Defendants shall also immediately notify the State's Project Coordinator, or in his or her absence, the State's Alternate Project Coordinator. Settling Defendants shall take such actions in consultation with EPA's Project Coordinator or other available authorized EPA officer and in accordance with all applicable provisions of the Health and Safety Plans, the Contingency Plans, and any other applicable plans or documents developed pursuant to the SOW. In the event that Settling Defendants fail to take appropriate response action as required by this Section, and EPA or, as appropriate, the State take such action instead, Settling Defendants shall reimburse EPA and the State all costs of the response action not inconsistent with the NCP in the manner described in Paragraph 57.a (Payments by Settling Defendants to EPA).

56. Nothing in the preceding Paragraph or in this Consent Decree shall be deemed to limit any authority of the United States, or the State, a) to take all appropriate action to protect human health and the environment or to prevent, abate, respond to, or minimize an actual or threatened release of Waste Material on, at, or from the Site, or b) to direct or order such action, or seek an order from the Court, to protect human health and the environment or to prevent, abate, respond to, or minimize an actual or threatened release of Waste Material on, at, or from the Site, subject to Section XXI (Covenants by Plaintiffs).

XVI. PAYMENTS FOR RESPONSE COSTS AND NATURAL RESOURCE DAMAGES

57. Payments by Settling Defendants to EPA.

a. In consideration of Past Response Costs and Future Response Costs

incurred or to be incurred by the United States and State Response Costs incurred or to be incurred by the State, Settling Defendants shall pay EPA \$650,000 within 60 days of the Effective Date or on July 1, 2008, whichever occurs later. The payment shall be made by FedWire Electronic Funds Transfer (“EFT”) to the U.S. Department of Justice account in accordance with current EFT procedures, referring to USAO File Number _____, EPA Site/Spill ID Number 01-K5, and DOJ Case Number 90-11-3-09142. The payment shall be made in accordance with instructions provided to Settling Defendants by the Financial Litigation Unit of the United States Attorney’s Office for the District of Rhode Island following lodging of the Consent Decree. Any payment received by the Department of Justice after 4:00 p.m. (Eastern Time) will be credited on the next business day.

b. At the time of the payment, Settling Defendants shall send notice that payment has been made to the United States, to EPA and to the Regional Financial Management Officer, in accordance with Section XXVI (Notices and Submissions).

c. The total amount to be paid by Settling Defendants pursuant to Paragraph 57.a shall be deposited in the West Kingston Town Dump/URI Disposal Area Superfund Site Special Account within the EPA Hazardous Substance Superfund to be retained and used to conduct or finance response actions at or in connection with the Site, or to be transferred by EPA to the EPA Hazardous Substance Superfund.

58. Payment to DOI. Within 60 days of the Effective Date or on July 1, 2008, whichever occurs later, Settling Defendants shall pay \$9,936.83 to DOI. The payment shall be made by EFT to the U.S. Department of Justice account in accordance with current EFT procedures, referring to USAO file number _____, EPA Site/Spill ID Number 01-K5, DOJ Case Number 90-11-3-09142, and NRDAR Account Number 14X5198.

The payment shall be made in accordance with instructions provided to the Settling Defendants by the Financial Litigation Unit of the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Rhode Island following lodging of the Consent Decree. Any payment received by the Department of Justice after 4:00 P.M. (Eastern Time) will be credited on the next business day. Notice that this payment has been made shall be sent to: Department of the Interior, Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration Program, Attn: Restoration Fund Manager, 1849 C Street, N.W., Mailstop 4449, Washington, DC 20240. Settling Defendants shall send a copy of the check and the notice to the United States and EPA as specified in Section XXVI (Notices and Submissions), as well as to Mark Barash, Esq., Office of the Regional Solicitor, Department of the Interior, One Gateway Center, Suite 612, Newton, MA 02458.

59. State's Natural Resource Damages Claim. In complete satisfaction of the State's claims for natural resource damages, Settling Defendants shall undertake and perform the projects set forth in Appendix F.

60. In the event that the payments required by Paragraph 57.a and/or Paragraph 58 are not made at the times specified in Paragraph 57.a and Paragraph 58, respectively, Settling Defendants shall pay Interest on the unpaid balance. Interest on the payment(s) shall begin to accrue on the due date specified in the applicable Paragraph (i.e., Paragraph 57.a or Paragraph 58). The Interest shall accrue through the date of Settling Defendants' payment. Payments of Interest made under this Paragraph shall be in addition to such other remedies or sanctions available to Plaintiffs by virtue of Settling Defendants' failure to make timely payments under this Section including, but not limited to, payment of stipulated penalties pursuant to Paragraph 76. Settling Defendants shall make all payments required by this Paragraph in the manner described in Paragraph 57.a for Interest payable on the payment to EPA or Paragraph 58 for

Interest payable on the payment to DOI.

XVII. INDEMNIFICATION AND INSURANCE

61. Settling Defendants' Indemnification of the United States and the State.

a. The United States and the State do not assume any liability by entering into this agreement or by virtue of any designation of Settling Defendants as EPA's authorized representatives under Section 104(e) of CERCLA. Settling Defendants shall indemnify, save and hold harmless the United States, the State, and their officials, agents, employees, contractors, subcontractors, or representatives for or from any and all claims or causes of action arising from, or on account of, negligent or other wrongful acts or omissions of Settling Defendants, their officers, directors, employees, agents, contractors, subcontractors, and any persons acting on their behalf or under their control, in carrying out activities pursuant to this Consent Decree, including, but not limited to, any claims arising from any designation of Settling Defendants as EPA's authorized representatives under Section 104(e) of CERCLA. Further, Settling Defendants agree to pay the United States and the State all costs they incur including, but not limited to, attorney's fees and other expenses of litigation and settlement arising from, or on account of, claims made against the United States or the State based on negligent or other wrongful acts or omissions of Settling Defendants, their officers, directors, employees, agents, contractors, subcontractors, and any persons acting on their behalf or under their control, in carrying out activities pursuant to this Consent Decree. Neither the United States nor the State shall be held out as a party to any contract entered into by or on behalf of Settling Defendants in carrying out activities pursuant to this Consent Decree. Neither Settling Defendants nor any such contractor shall be considered an agent of the United States or the State.

b. The United States and the State shall give Settling Defendants notice of

any claim for which the United States or the State plan to seek indemnification pursuant to Paragraph 61, and shall consult with Settling Defendants prior to settling such claim.

62. Settling Defendants waive all claims against the United States and the State for damages or reimbursement or for set-off of any payments made or to be made to the United States or the State, arising from or on account of any contract, agreement, or arrangement between any one or more of Settling Defendants and any person for performance of Work on or relating to the Site, including, but not limited to, claims on account of construction delays. In addition, Settling Defendants shall indemnify and hold harmless the United States and the State with respect to any and all claims for damages or reimbursement arising from or on account of any contract, agreement, or arrangement between any one or more of Settling Defendants and any person for performance of Work on or relating to the Site, including, but not limited to, claims on account of construction delays.

63. No later than 15 days before commencing any on-site Work, Settling Defendants shall secure, and shall maintain until the first anniversary of EPA's Certification of Completion of the Remedial Action pursuant to Paragraph 53.b of Section XIV (Certification of Completion) comprehensive general liability insurance with limits of two million dollars, combined single limit, and automobile liability insurance with limits of one million dollars, combined single limit, naming the United States and the State as additional insureds. In addition, for the duration of this Consent Decree, Settling Defendants shall satisfy, or shall ensure that their contractors or subcontractors satisfy, all applicable laws and regulations regarding the provision of worker's compensation insurance for all persons performing the Work on behalf of Settling Defendants in furtherance of this Consent Decree. Prior to commencement of the Work under this Consent Decree, Settling Defendants shall provide to EPA and the State certificates of such insurance and

a copy of each insurance policy. Settling Defendants shall resubmit such certificates and copies of policies each year on the anniversary of the Effective Date. If Settling Defendants demonstrate by evidence satisfactory to EPA and the State that any contractor or subcontractor maintains insurance equivalent to that described above, or insurance covering the same risks but in a lesser amount, then, with respect to that contractor or subcontractor, Settling Defendants need provide only that portion of the insurance described above which is not maintained by the contractor or subcontractor.

XVIII. FORCE MAJEURE

64. “Force majeure,” for purposes of this Consent Decree, is defined as any event arising from causes beyond the control of Settling Defendants, of any entity controlled by Settling Defendants, or of Settling Defendants’ contractors, that delays or prevents the performance of any obligation under this Consent Decree despite Settling Defendants’ best efforts to fulfill the obligation. The requirement that Settling Defendants exercise “best efforts to fulfill the obligation” includes using best efforts to anticipate any potential force majeure event and best efforts to address the effects of any potential force majeure event (1) as it is occurring and (2) following the potential force majeure event, such that the delay is minimized to the greatest extent possible. “Force Majeure” does not include financial inability to complete the Work or a failure to attain the Performance Standards.

65. If any event occurs or has occurred that is likely to delay the performance of any obligation under this Consent Decree within the time required, whether or not caused by a force majeure event, Settling Defendants shall notify orally EPA’s Project Coordinator or, in his or her absence, EPA’s Alternate Project Coordinator or, in the event both of EPA’s designated representatives are unavailable, the Director of the Office of Site Remediation & Restoration,

EPA Region 1, within 48 hours of when Settling Defendants first knew that the event might cause a delay. Settling Defendants also shall notify orally the State's Project Coordinator within 48 hours of when Settling Defendants first knew that the event was likely to cause a delay.

Within five days thereafter, Settling Defendants shall provide in writing to EPA and the State an explanation and description of the reasons for the delay; the anticipated duration of the delay; all actions taken or to be taken to prevent or minimize the delay; a schedule for implementation of any measures to be taken to prevent or mitigate the delay or the effect of the delay; Settling Defendants' rationale for attributing such delay to a force majeure event if they intend to assert such a claim; and a statement as to whether, in the opinion of Settling Defendants, such event may cause or contribute to an endangerment to public health, welfare or the environment.

Settling Defendants shall include with any notice all available documentation supporting their claim that the delay was attributable to a force majeure. Failure to comply with the above requirements shall preclude Settling Defendants from asserting any claim of force majeure for that event for the period of time of such failure to comply, and for any additional delay caused by such failure. Settling Defendants shall be deemed to know of any circumstance of which Settling Defendants, any entity controlled by Settling Defendants, or Settling Defendants' contractors knew or should have known.

66. If EPA, after a reasonable opportunity for review and comment by the State, agrees that the delay or anticipated delay is attributable to a force majeure event, the time for performance of the obligations under this Consent Decree that are affected by the force majeure event will be extended by EPA, after a reasonable opportunity for review and comment by the State, for such time as is necessary to complete those obligations and the resulting delay shall not be deemed a violation of this Consent Decree. An extension of the time for performance of the

obligations affected by the force majeure event shall not, of itself, extend the time for performance of any other obligation. If EPA, after a reasonable opportunity for review and comment by the State, does not agree that the delay or anticipated delay has been or will be caused by a force majeure event, EPA will notify Settling Defendants in writing of its decision. If EPA, after a reasonable opportunity for review and comment by the State, agrees that the delay is attributable to a force majeure event, EPA will notify Settling Defendants in writing of the length of the extension, if any, for performance of the obligations affected by the force majeure event.

67. If Settling Defendants elect to invoke the dispute resolution procedures set forth in Section XIX (Dispute Resolution), they shall do so no later than 15 days after receipt of EPA's notice. In any such proceeding, Settling Defendants shall have the burden of demonstrating by a preponderance of the evidence that the delay or anticipated delay has been or will be caused by a force majeure event, that the duration of the delay or the extension sought was or will be warranted under the circumstances, that best efforts were exercised to avoid and mitigate the effects of the delay, and that Settling Defendants complied with the requirements of Paragraphs 64 and 65, above. If Settling Defendants carry this burden, the delay at issue shall be deemed not to be a violation by Settling Defendants of the affected obligation of this Consent Decree identified to EPA and the Court.

XIX. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

68. Unless otherwise expressly provided for in this Consent Decree, the dispute resolution procedures of this Section shall be the exclusive mechanism to resolve disputes between EPA and Settling Defendants or between the State and Settling Defendants arising under or with respect to this Consent Decree. The procedures for resolution of disputes which involve

EPA are governed by Paragraphs 69 to 73. The State may participate in such dispute resolution proceedings to the extent specified in Paragraphs 69 through 73. Disputes exclusively between the State and Settling Defendants are governed by Paragraph 74. However, the procedures set forth in this Section shall not apply to actions by the United States or the State to enforce obligations of Settling Defendants that have not been disputed in accordance with this Section.

69. Any dispute which arises under or with respect to this Consent Decree shall in the first instance be the subject of informal negotiations between the parties to the dispute. The period for informal negotiations shall not exceed 20 days from the time the dispute arises, unless it is modified by written agreement of the parties to the dispute. The dispute shall be considered to have arisen when one party sends the other parties a written Notice of Dispute.

70. Statements of Position.

a. In the event that the parties cannot resolve a dispute by informal negotiations under the preceding Paragraph, then the position advanced by EPA, after reasonable opportunity for review and comment by the State, shall be considered binding unless, within 10 days after the conclusion of the informal negotiation period, Settling Defendants invoke the formal dispute resolution procedures of this Section by serving on the United States and the State a written Statement of Position on the matter in dispute, including, but not limited to, any factual data, analysis or opinion supporting that position and any supporting documentation relied upon by Settling Defendants. The Statement of Position shall specify Settling Defendants' position as to whether formal dispute resolution should proceed under Paragraph 71 or Paragraph 72.

b. Within 21 days after receipt of Settling Defendants' Statement of Position, EPA, after reasonable opportunity for review and comment by the State, will serve on Settling Defendants its Statement of Position, including, but not limited to, any factual data, analysis, or

opinion supporting that position and all supporting documentation relied upon by EPA. The State, after reasonable opportunity for review and comment by EPA, may also serve a Statement of Position within the 21-day time limit set forth above in this Paragraph. EPA's Statement of Position shall include a statement as to whether formal dispute resolution should proceed under Paragraph 71 or 72. Within 14 days after receipt of EPA's Statement of Position, Settling Defendants may submit a Reply.

c. If there is disagreement between EPA and Settling Defendants as to whether dispute resolution should proceed under Paragraph 71 or 72, the parties to the dispute shall follow the procedures set forth in the paragraph determined by EPA to be applicable. However, if Settling Defendants ultimately appeal to the Court to resolve the dispute, the Court shall determine which paragraph is applicable in accordance with the standards of applicability set forth in Paragraphs 71 and 72.

71. Formal dispute resolution for disputes pertaining to the selection or adequacy of any response action and all other disputes that are accorded review on the administrative record under applicable principles of administrative law shall be conducted pursuant to the procedures set forth in this Paragraph. For purposes of this Paragraph, the adequacy of any response action includes, without limitation: (1) the adequacy or appropriateness of plans, procedures to implement plans, or any other items requiring approval by EPA under this Consent Decree; and (2) the adequacy of the performance of response actions taken pursuant to this Consent Decree. Nothing in this Consent Decree shall be construed to allow any dispute by Settling Defendants regarding the ROD's provisions.

a. An administrative record of the dispute shall be maintained by EPA and shall contain all statements of position, including supporting documentation, submitted pursuant

to this Section. Where appropriate, EPA may allow submission of supplemental statements of position by Settling Defendants, EPA or the State.

b. The Director of the Office of Site Remediation & Restoration, EPA Region 1, will issue, after reasonable opportunity for review and comment by the State, a final administrative decision resolving the dispute based on the administrative record described in Paragraph 71.a. This decision shall be binding upon Settling Defendants, subject only to the right to seek judicial review pursuant to Paragraphs 71.c and d.

c. Any administrative decision made by EPA pursuant to Paragraph 71.b. shall be reviewable by this Court, provided that a motion for judicial review of the decision is filed by Settling Defendants with the Court and served on all Parties within 10 days of receipt of EPA's decision. The motion shall include a description of the matter in dispute, the efforts made by the parties to resolve it, the relief requested, and the schedule, if any, within which the dispute must be resolved to ensure orderly implementation of this Consent Decree. The United States may file a response to Settling Defendants' motion.

d. In proceedings on any dispute governed by this Paragraph, Settling Defendants shall have the burden of demonstrating that the decision of the Director of the Office of Site Remediation & Restoration is arbitrary and capricious or otherwise not in accordance with law. Judicial review of EPA's decision shall be on the administrative record compiled pursuant to Paragraph 71.a.

72. Formal dispute resolution for disputes that neither pertain to the selection or adequacy of any response action nor are otherwise accorded review on the administrative record under applicable principles of administrative law, shall be governed by this Paragraph.

a. Following receipt of Settling Defendants' Statement of Position submitted

pursuant to Paragraph 70, the Director of the Office of Site Remediation & Restoration, EPA Region 1, after reasonable opportunity for review and comment by the State, will issue a final decision resolving the dispute. The decision of the Director of the Office of Site Remediation & Restoration shall be binding on Settling Defendants unless, within 10 days of receipt of the decision, Settling Defendants file with the Court and serve on the parties a motion for judicial review of the decision setting forth the matter in dispute, the efforts made by the parties to resolve it, the relief requested, and the schedule, if any, within which the dispute must be resolved to ensure orderly implementation of the Consent Decree. The United States may file a response to Settling Defendants' motion.

b. Notwithstanding Paragraph M of Section I (Background), judicial review of any dispute governed by this Paragraph shall be governed by applicable principles of law.

73. The invocation of formal dispute resolution procedures under this Section shall not extend, postpone or affect in any way any obligation of Settling Defendants under this Consent Decree, not directly in dispute, unless EPA, after reasonable opportunity for review and comment by the State, or the Court agrees otherwise. Stipulated penalties with respect to the disputed matter shall continue to accrue but payment shall be stayed pending resolution of the dispute as provided in Paragraph 83. Notwithstanding the stay of payment, stipulated penalties shall accrue from the first day of noncompliance with any applicable provision of this Consent Decree. In the event that Settling Defendants do not prevail on the disputed issue, stipulated penalties shall be assessed and paid as provided in Section XX (Stipulated Penalties), unless EPA agrees in writing otherwise.

74. Disputes Solely Between the State and Settling Defendants. Disputes arising under the Consent Decree between the State and Settling Defendants that relate to assessment of

stipulated penalties by the State, and the adequacy of access and institutional controls held by the State, shall be governed in the following manner. The procedures for resolving the disputes mentioned in this Paragraph shall be the same as provided for in Paragraphs 69 to 73, except that each reference to EPA shall read as a reference to RIDEM, each reference to the Director of the Office of Site Remediation & Restoration, EPA Region 1, shall be read as a reference to the Director of the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, and each reference to the United States shall be read as a reference to the State.

XX. STIPULATED PENALTIES

75. Settling Defendants shall be liable for stipulated penalties in the amounts set forth in Paragraphs 76 and 77 to the United States and the State for failure to comply with the requirements of this Consent Decree specified below, unless excused under Section XVIII (Force Majeure). Settling Defendants shall pay 90% of stipulated penalties to the United States, and shall pay 10% of stipulated penalties to the State in accordance with the requirements of Paragraph 81, except for penalties covered by Paragraph 84. "Compliance" by Settling Defendants shall include completion of the activities under this Consent Decree or any work plan or other plan approved under this Consent Decree identified below in accordance with all applicable requirements of law, this Consent Decree, the SOW, and any plans or other documents approved by EPA pursuant to this Consent Decree and within the specified time schedules established by and approved under this Consent Decree. "Compliance" shall also include the obligations to the State specified in Paragraph 84.

76. The following stipulated penalties shall accrue per violation per day for any noncompliance except those identified in Paragraph 77:

<u>Penalty Per Violation Per Day</u>	<u>Period of Noncompliance</u>
\$ 1,000	1st through 20th day
\$ 2,000	21st through 40th day
\$ 4,000	41st day and beyond

77. The following stipulated penalties shall accrue per violation per day for failure to submit timely or adequate reports pursuant to Paragraph 32, Section X of the Consent Decree:

<u>Penalty Per Violation Per Day</u>	<u>Period of Noncompliance</u>
\$ 250	1st through 20th day
\$ 500	21st through 40th day
\$ 1,000	41st day and beyond

78. In the event that EPA assumes performance of a portion or all of the Work pursuant to Paragraph 97 of Section XXI (Covenants by Plaintiffs), Settling Defendants shall be liable for a stipulated penalty in the amount of \$1,000,000.

79. All penalties shall begin to accrue on the day after the complete performance is due or the day a violation occurs, and shall continue to accrue through the final day of the correction of the noncompliance or completion of the activity. However, stipulated penalties shall not accrue: (1) with respect to a deficient submission under Section XI (EPA Approval of Plans and Other Submissions), during the period, if any, beginning on the 31st day after EPA's receipt of such submission until the date that EPA notifies Settling Defendants of any deficiency; (2) with respect to a decision by the Director of the Office of Site Remediation & Restoration, EPA Region 1, under Paragraphs 71.b or 72.a of Section XIX (Dispute Resolution), during the period, if any, beginning on the 21st day after the date that Settling Defendants' reply to EPA's Statement of Position is received until the date that the Director issues a final decision regarding

such dispute; or (3) with respect to judicial review by this Court of any dispute under Section XIX (Dispute Resolution), during the period, if any, beginning on the 31st day after the Court's receipt of the final submission regarding the dispute until the date that the Court issues a final decision regarding such dispute. Nothing herein shall prevent the simultaneous accrual of separate penalties for separate violations of this Consent Decree.

80. Following EPA's determination, after a reasonable opportunity for review and comment by the State, that Settling Defendants have failed to comply with a requirement of this Consent Decree, EPA may give Settling Defendants written notification of the same and describe the noncompliance. EPA, or EPA and the State jointly, may send Settling Defendants a written demand for the payment of the penalties. However, penalties shall accrue as provided in the preceding Paragraph regardless of whether EPA, or the State for the violations specified below in Paragraph 84 of this Section has notified Settling Defendants of a violation.

81. All penalties accruing under this Section shall be due and payable to the United States and/or the State within 30 days of Settling Defendants' receipt from EPA of a demand for payment of the penalties, or of a demand for payment of penalties from the State with respect to the obligations specified below in Paragraph 84 of this Section, unless Settling Defendants invoke the Dispute Resolution procedures under Section XIX (Dispute Resolution). All payments to the United States under this Section shall be paid by certified or cashier's check(s) made payable to "EPA Hazardous Substances Superfund," shall be mailed to: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Superfund Payments, Cincinnati Finance Center, P.O. Box 979076, St. Louis, MO 63197-9000, shall indicate that the payment is for stipulated penalties, and shall refer to the EPA Region and Site/Spill ID # 01-K5, the DOJ Case Number 90-11-3-09142, and the name and address of the party making payment. All payments to the State under

this Section shall be made by certified or cashier's check(s) payable to "General Treasurer (for deposit in the Environmental Response Fund)" and shall be mailed to the Office of the Director, Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, 235 Promenade Street, Providence, Rhode Island 02908. Copies of check(s) paid pursuant to this Section, and any accompanying transmittal letter(s), shall be sent to the United States and to the State as provided in Section XXVI (Notices and Submissions).

82. The payment of penalties shall not alter in any way Settling Defendants' obligation to complete the performance of the Work required under this Consent Decree.

83. Penalties shall continue to accrue as provided in Paragraph 79 during any dispute resolution period, but need not be paid until the following:

a. If the dispute is resolved by agreement or by a decision of EPA that is not appealed to this Court, accrued penalties determined to be owing shall be paid to EPA and the State within 15 days of the agreement or the receipt of EPA's decision or order;

b. If the dispute is appealed to this Court and the United States prevails in whole or in part, Settling Defendants shall pay all accrued penalties determined by the Court to be owed to EPA and the State within 60 days of receipt of the Court's decision or order, except as provided in Subparagraph c below;

c. If the District Court's decision is appealed by any Party, Settling Defendants shall pay all accrued penalties determined by the District Court to be owing to the United States or the State into an interest-bearing escrow account within 60 days of receipt of the Court's decision or order. Penalties shall be paid into this account as they continue to accrue, at least every 60 days. Within 15 days of receipt of the final appellate court decision, the escrow agent shall pay the balance of the account to EPA and the State or to Settling Defendants to the

extent that they prevail.

84. State Assessment of Stipulated Penalties. Assessment of stipulated penalties by the State shall be governed in the following manner. Following the State's determination that Settling Defendants have failed to timely submit deliverables to the State, or have failed to timely provide such written or oral notices to the State as are required by this Consent Decree, or have violated any Institutional Controls established pursuant to this Consent Decree and held by the State, the State may, after reasonable opportunity for review and comment by EPA, give Settling Defendants written notification of the same and describe the noncompliance. The provisions for liability, assessment and payment of the stipulated penalties referred to in this Paragraph shall be the same as provided in Paragraphs 75 to 83 of this Section, except that in Paragraph 80 excluding the last sentence of that Paragraph, and in Paragraph 83, each reference to EPA shall read as a reference to RIDEM, each reference to the United States shall be read as a reference to the State, each reference to the State shall be read as a reference to the United States, and each reference to the State's reasonable opportunity to review and comment shall be read as EPA's reasonable opportunity for review and comment. For penalties assessed under this Paragraph, Settling Defendants shall pay 90% to the State, and shall pay 10% to the United States in accordance with the requirements of Paragraph 81 of this Section.

85. If Settling Defendants fail to pay stipulated penalties when due, the United States or the State may institute proceedings to collect their respective penalties, as well as interest. Settling Defendants shall pay interest on the unpaid balance, which shall begin to accrue on the date of demand made pursuant to Paragraph 81. Interest on any unpaid balance due to the United States or to the State shall accrue at the rate established pursuant to Section 107(a) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9607.

86. Nothing in this Consent Decree shall be construed as prohibiting, altering, or in any way limiting the ability of the United States or the State to seek any other remedies or sanctions available by virtue of Settling Defendants' violation of this Decree or of the statutes and regulations upon which it is based, including, but not limited to, (a) any remedies or sanctions to recover response costs the United States or the State incurs in enforcing this Decree or related to resolution of any dispute in EPA's or the State's favor under Section XIX of this Decree, and (b) penalties pursuant to Section 122(l) of CERCLA, provided, however, that the United States shall not seek civil penalties pursuant to Section 122(l) of CERCLA for any violation for which a stipulated penalty is provided herein, except in the case of a willful violation of the Consent Decree.

87. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Section, the United States may, in its unreviewable discretion, waive any portion of stipulated penalties that have accrued pursuant to this Consent Decree.

XXI. COVENANTS BY PLAINTIFFS

88. In consideration of the actions that will be performed and the payments that will be made by Settling Defendants under the terms of the Consent Decree, and except as specifically provided in Paragraphs 89, 90, and 96 of this Section, the United States covenants not to sue or to take administrative action against Settling Defendants pursuant to Sections 106 and 107(a) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9606 and 9607, relating to the Site. Except with respect to future liability, these covenants not to sue shall take effect upon the receipt by EPA and DOI of all the payments required by Paragraph 57.a and Paragraph 58 of Section XVI (Payments for Response Costs). With respect to future liability, these covenants not to sue shall take effect upon Certification of Completion of Remedial Action by EPA pursuant to Paragraph 53.b of

Section XIV (Certification of Completion). These covenants not to sue are conditioned upon the satisfactory performance by Settling Defendants of their obligations under this Consent Decree. These covenants not to sue extend only to Settling Defendants and do not extend to any other person.

89. United States' Pre-certification Reservations. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Consent Decree, the United States reserves, and this Consent Decree is without prejudice to, the right to institute proceedings in this action or in a new action, or to issue an administrative order seeking to compel Settling Defendants

- a. to perform further response actions relating to the Site, or
- b. to reimburse the United States for additional costs of response if, prior to

Certification of Completion of the Remedial Action:

- (1) conditions at the Site, previously unknown to EPA, are discovered,
- or
- (2) information, previously unknown to EPA, is received, in whole or in part,

and EPA determines that these previously unknown conditions or information together with any other relevant information indicates that the Remedial Action is not protective of human health or the environment.

90. United States' Post-certification Reservations. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Consent Decree, the United States reserves, and this Consent Decree is without prejudice to, the right to institute proceedings in this action or in a new action, or to issue an administrative order seeking to compel Settling Defendants

- a. to perform further response actions relating to the Site, or

b. to reimburse the United States for additional costs of response if, subsequent to Certification of Completion of the Remedial Action:

- (1) conditions at the Site, previously unknown to EPA, are discovered,
- or
- (2) information, previously unknown to EPA, is received, in whole or in part,

and EPA determines that these previously unknown conditions or this information together with other relevant information indicate that the Remedial Action is not protective of human health or the environment.

91. For purposes of Paragraph 89, the information and the conditions known to EPA shall include only that information and those conditions known to EPA as of the date the ROD was signed and set forth in the Record of Decision for the Site and the administrative record supporting the Record of Decision. For purposes of Paragraph 90, the information and the conditions known to EPA shall include only that information and those conditions known to EPA as of the date of Certification of Completion of the Remedial Action and set forth in the Record of Decision, the administrative record supporting the Record of Decision, the post-ROD administrative record, or in any information received by EPA pursuant to the requirements of this Consent Decree prior to Certification of Completion of the Remedial Action.

92. State's Covenant Not to Sue Settling Defendants. In consideration of the actions that will be performed and the payments that will be made by Settling Defendants under the terms of the Consent Decree, and except as specifically provided in Paragraph 96 of this Section, the State covenants not to sue or to take administrative action against Settling Defendants pursuant to Sections 107(a) of CERCLA and R.I.G.L. §§ 23-18.9, 23-19.1 and 23-19.14 relating

to the Site. These covenants not to sue shall take effect upon receipt of the payments required by Paragraphs 57.a. These covenants are conditioned upon the satisfactory performance by Settling Defendants of their obligations under this Consent Decree. These covenants not to sue extend only to Settling Defendants and do not extend to any other person.

93. State's Pre-Certification Reservations. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Consent Decree, the State on behalf of RIDEM, reserves, and this Consent Decree is without prejudice to, any right jointly with, or separately from, the United States to institute proceedings in this action or in a new action under Section 107 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9607, or under any applicable State law, including but not limited to R.I.G.L. §§ 23-18.9, 23-19.1 and 23-19.14, seeking to compel all or any of Settling Defendants (1) to perform other response actions at the Site, or (2) to reimburse the State for additional response costs for response actions at the Site, to the extent that EPA has determined that such response actions required under (1) and (2) above in this Paragraph will not significantly delay or be inconsistent with the Remedial Action, if, prior to Certification of Completion of the Remedial Action:

(a) conditions at the Site, previously unknown to the State, are discovered or become known to the State, or

(b) information previously unknown to the State is received by the State, in whole or in part,

and the RIDEM Director, or his or her delegate determines, pursuant to R.I.G.L. §§ 23-18.9, 23-19.1 and 23-19.14, based on these previously unknown conditions or this information together with any other relevant information that the response actions taken constitute an actual or threatened release of hazardous materials or an imminent hazard to the public health and safety and the environment. The United States reserves all rights it may have under applicable law, to

oppose any determinations made or any actions taken, ordered or proposed by the State pursuant to this Paragraph.

94. State's Post-Certification Reservations. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Consent Decree, the State, on behalf of RIDEM, reserves, and this Consent Decree is without prejudice to, the right jointly with, or separately from, the United States to institute proceedings in this action or in a new action under Section 107 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9607, or under any applicable State law, including but not limited to R.I.G.L. §§ 23-18.9, 23-19.1 and 23-19.14, seeking to compel all or any of Settling Defendants (1) to perform other response actions at the Site, or (2) to reimburse the State for additional response costs for response actions at the Site, to the extent that EPA has determined that such response actions required under (1) and (2) above in this Paragraph will not significantly delay or be inconsistent with the Remedial Action, if, subsequent to Certification of Completion of Remedial Action:

(a) conditions at the Site, previously unknown to the State, are discovered or become known to the State after the Certification of Completion, or

(b) information previously unknown to the State is received by the State, in whole or in part, after the Certification of Completion,

and the RIDEM Director, or his or her delegate determines, pursuant to R.I.G.L. §§ 23-18.9, 23-19.1 and 23-19.14, based on these previously unknown conditions or this information together with any other relevant information that the response actions taken constitute an actual or threatened release of hazardous materials or an imminent hazard to the public health and safety and the environment. The United States reserves all rights it may have under applicable law, to oppose any determinations made or any actions taken, ordered or proposed by the State pursuant to this Paragraph.

95. For purposes of Paragraph 93, the information and the conditions known to the State shall include only that information and those conditions known to the State as of the date the ROD was signed and set forth in the Record of Decision for the Site and the administrative record supporting the Record of Decision. For purposes of Paragraph 94, the information and the conditions known to the State shall include only that information and those conditions known to the State as of the date of Certification of Completion of the Remedial Action and set forth in the Record of Decision, the administrative record supporting the Record of Decision, the post-ROD administrative record, or in any information received by the State pursuant to the requirements of this Consent Decree prior to Certification of Completion of the Remedial Action.

96. General reservations of rights. The United States and the State reserve, and this Consent Decree is without prejudice to, all rights against Settling Defendants with respect to all matters not expressly included within Plaintiff's covenant not to sue. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Consent Decree, the United States and the State reserve all rights against Settling Defendants with respect to:

- a. claims based on a failure by Settling Defendants to meet a requirement of this Consent Decree;
- b. liability arising from the past, present, or future disposal, release, or threat of release of Waste Material outside of the Site;
- c. liability based upon Settling Defendants' ownership or operation of the Site, or upon Settling Defendants' transportation, treatment, storage, or disposal, or the arrangement for the transportation, treatment, storage, or disposal of Waste Material at or in connection with the Site, other than as provided in the ROD, the Work, or otherwise ordered by EPA, after signature of this Consent Decree by Settling Defendants;

- d. claims for liability for damages, including costs of damages assessment, recoverable under section 107 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9607, for injury to, destruction of, or loss of natural resources (i) located outside of the Site and/or (ii) resulting from hazardous substances released at or from any area other than the Site;
- e. criminal liability;
- f. liability for violations of federal or state law which occur during or after implementation of the Remedial Action; and
- g. liability, prior to Certification of Completion of the Remedial Action, for additional response actions that EPA determines are necessary to achieve Performance Standards, but that cannot be required pursuant to Paragraph 15 (Modification of the SOW or Related Work Plans).

97. Work Takeover.

- a. In the event EPA determines that Settling Defendants have (i) ceased implementation of any portion of the Work, or (ii) are seriously or repeatedly deficient or late in their performance of the Work, or (iii) are implementing the Work in a manner which may cause an endangerment to human health or the environment, EPA may issue a written notice (“Work Takeover Notice”) to Settling Defendants. Any Work Takeover Notice issued by EPA will specify the grounds upon which such notice was issued and will provide Settling Defendants a period of at least 30 days within which to remedy the circumstances giving rise to EPA’s issuance of such notice.
- b. If, after expiration of the 30-day notice period specified in the previous Paragraph, Settling Defendants have not remedied to EPA’s satisfaction the circumstances giving rise to EPA’s issuance of the relevant Work Takeover Notice, EPA may at any time thereafter

assume the performance of all or any portions of the Work as EPA deems necessary (“Work Takeover”). EPA shall notify Settling Defendants in writing (which writing may be electronic) if EPA determines that implementation of a Work Takeover is warranted under this Paragraph.

c. Settling Defendants may invoke the procedures set forth in Section XIX (Dispute Resolution), Paragraph 71, to dispute EPA’s implementation of a Work Takeover under the previous Subparagraph. However, notwithstanding Settling Defendants’ invocation of such dispute resolution procedures, and during the pendency of any such dispute, EPA may in its sole discretion commence and continue a Work Takeover under the previous Paragraph until the earlier of (i) the date that Settling Defendants remedy, to EPA’s satisfaction, the circumstances giving rise to EPA’s issuance of the relevant Work Takeover Notice or (ii) the date that a final decision is rendered in accordance with Section XIX (Dispute Resolution), Paragraph 71.b, requiring EPA to terminate such Work Takeover.

d. After commencement and for the duration of any Work Takeover, EPA shall have immediate access to and benefit of any performance guarantee(s) provided pursuant to Section XIII , in accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 51 of that Section. If and to the extent that EPA is unable to secure the resources guaranteed under any such performance guarantee(s) and Settling Defendants fail to remit a cash amount up to but not exceeding the estimated cost of the remaining Work to be performed, all in accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 51, any unreimbursed costs incurred by EPA in performing Work under the Work Takeover shall be paid in the manner described in Paragraph 57.a (Payments by Settling Defendants to EPA).

98. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Consent Decree, the United States and the State retain all authority and reserve all rights to take any and all response actions

authorized by law.

99. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Consent Decree, the United States, on behalf of its natural resource trustees, reserves the right to institute proceedings against Settling Defendants in this action or in a new action seeking recovery of natural resource damages, based on (a) conditions with respect to the Site unknown to the United States at the date of lodging of this Consent Decree, that result in releases of hazardous substances that contribute to injury to, destruction of, or loss of natural resources, or (b) information received after the date of lodging of this Consent Decree which, together with other relevant information, indicates that there is injury to, destruction of, or loss of natural resources of a type that was unknown, or of a magnitude greater than was known, to the United States at the date of lodging of this Consent Decree.

XXII. COVENANTS BY SETTLING DEFENDANTS

100. Covenant Not to Sue by Settling Defendants. Subject to the reservations in Paragraph 101, Settling Defendants hereby covenant not to sue and agree not to assert any claims or causes of action against the United States or the State with respect to the Site or this Consent Decree, including, but not limited to:

- a. any direct or indirect claim for reimbursement from the Hazardous Substance Superfund (established pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C. § 9507) through CERCLA Sections 106(b)(2), 107, 111, 112, 113 or any other provision of law;
- b. any claims against the United States, including any department, agency or instrumentality of the United States under CERCLA Sections 107 or 113 related to the Site, or
- c. any claims arising out of response actions at or in connection with the Site, including any claim under the United States Constitution, the Rhode Island State Constitution, the Tucker Act, 28 U.S.C. § 1491, the Equal Access to Justice Act, 28 U.S.C. § 2412, as

amended, or at common law.

d. any claim against the State, including any department, agency or instrumentality of the State other than a Settling Defendant, under CERCLA Sections 107 or 113 or R.I.G.L. §§ 23-18.9, 23-19.1 and 23-19.14, related to the Site.

Except as provided in Paragraph 103 (Waiver of Claims Against *De Minimis* Parties), Paragraph 104 (MSW Waiver) and Paragraph 110 (Waiver of Claim-Splitting Defenses), these covenants not to sue shall not apply in the event that the United States or the State brings a cause of action or issues an order pursuant to the reservations set forth in Paragraphs 89, 90, 93, 94, 96(b) - (d) or 96(g), but only to the extent that Settling Defendants' claims arise from the same response action, response costs, or damages that the United States or the State is seeking pursuant to the applicable reservation.

101. Settling Defendants reserve, and this Consent Decree is without prejudice to: claims against the United States, subject to the provisions of Chapter 171 of Title 28 of the United States Code, for money damages for injury or loss of property or personal injury or death caused by the negligent or wrongful act or omission of any employee of the United States while acting within the scope of his office or employment under circumstances where the United States, if a private person, would be liable to the claimant in accordance with the law of the place where the act or omission occurred. However, any such claim shall not include a claim for any damages caused, in whole or in part, by the act or omission of any person, including any contractor, who is not a federal employee as that term is defined in 28 U.S.C. § 2671; nor shall any such claim include a claim based on EPA's selection of response actions, or the oversight or approval of Settling Defendants' plans or activities. The foregoing applies only to claims which are brought pursuant to any statute other than CERCLA and for which the waiver of sovereign

immunity is found in a statute other than CERCLA.

102. Nothing in this Consent Decree shall be deemed to constitute preauthorization of a claim within the meaning of Section 111 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9611, or 40 C.F.R. § 300.700(d).

103. Settling Defendants agree not to assert any claims and to waive all claims or causes of action that they may have for all matters relating to the Site, including for contribution, against any person that has entered into a final CERCLA § 122(g) *de minimis* settlement with EPA with respect to the Site as of the Effective Date. This waiver shall not apply with respect to any defense, claim, or cause of action that a Settling Defendant may have against any person if such person asserts a claim or cause of action relating to the Site against such Settling Defendant.

104. Settling Defendants agree not to assert any claims and to waive all claims or causes of action that they may have for all matters relating to the Site, including for contribution, against any person where the person's liability to Settling Defendants with respect to the Site is based solely on having arranged for disposal or treatment, or for transport for disposal or treatment, of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) at the Site, if the volume of MSW disposed, treated or transported by such person to the Site did not exceed 0.2 percent of the total volume of waste at the Site.

105. The waiver in Paragraph 104 shall not apply with respect to any defense, claim, or cause of action that a Settling Defendant may have against any person meeting the above criteria if such person asserts a claim or cause of action relating to the Site against such Settling Defendant. This waiver also shall not apply to any claim or cause of action against any person meeting the above criteria if EPA determines that: (a) the MSW contributed significantly or could contribute significantly, either individually or in the aggregate, to the cost of the response

action or natural resource restoration at the Site; (b) the person has failed to comply with any information request or administrative subpoena issued pursuant to Section 104(e) or 122(e) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9604(e) or § 9622(e), or Section 3007 of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6927; or (c) the person impeded or is impeding, through action or inaction, the performance of a response action or natural resource restoration with respect to the Site.

XXIII. EFFECT OF SETTLEMENT; CONTRIBUTION PROTECTION

106. Except as provided in Paragraph 103 (Waiver of Claims Against *De Minimis* Parties) and Paragraph 104 (MSW Waiver), nothing in this Consent Decree shall be construed to create any rights in, or grant any cause of action to, any person not a Party to this Consent Decree. The preceding sentence shall not be construed to waive or nullify any rights that any person not a signatory to this decree may have under applicable law. Except as provided in Paragraph 103 (Waiver of Claims Against *De Minimis* Parties) and Paragraph 104 (MSW Waiver), each of the Parties expressly reserves any and all rights (including, but not limited to, any right to contribution), defenses, claims, demands, and causes of action which each Party may have with respect to any matter, transaction, or occurrence relating in any way to the Site against any person not a Party hereto.

107. The Parties agree, and by entering this Consent Decree this Court finds, that Settling Defendants are entitled, as of the Effective Date, to protection from contribution actions or claims as provided by CERCLA Section 113(f)(2), 42 U.S.C. § 9613(f)(2) for matters addressed in this Consent Decree. The “matters addressed” in this Consent Decree are all response actions taken or to be taken and all response costs incurred or to be incurred by the United States, the State or any other person with respect to the Site. The “matters addressed” in this settlement do not include those response costs or response actions as to which the United

States or the State has reserved its rights under this Consent Decree (except for claims for failure to comply with this Decree), in the event that the United States or the State asserts rights against Settling Defendants coming within the scope of such reservations.

108. Settling Defendants agree that with respect to any suit or claim for contribution brought by them for matters related to this Consent Decree they will notify the United States and the State in writing no later than 60 days prior to the initiation of such suit or claim.

109. Settling Defendants also agree that with respect to any suit or claim for contribution brought against them for matters related to this Consent Decree they will notify in writing the United States and the State within 10 days of service of the complaint on them. In addition, Settling Defendants shall notify the United States and the State within 10 days of service or receipt of any Motion for Summary Judgment and within 10 days of receipt of any order from a court setting a case for trial.

110. In any subsequent administrative or judicial proceeding initiated by the United States or the State for injunctive relief, recovery of response costs, or other appropriate relief relating to the Site, Settling Defendants shall not assert, and may not maintain, any defense or claim based upon the principles of waiver, res judicata, collateral estoppel, issue preclusion, claim-splitting, or other defenses based upon any contention that the claims raised by the United States or the State in the subsequent proceeding were or should have been brought in the instant case; provided, however, that nothing in this Paragraph affects the enforceability of the covenants not to sue set forth in Section XXI (Covenants by Plaintiffs).

XXIV. ACCESS TO INFORMATION

111. Settling Defendants shall provide to EPA and the State, upon request, copies of all documents and information within their possession or control or that of their contractors or

agents relating to activities at the Site or to the implementation of this Consent Decree, including, but not limited to, sampling, analysis, chain of custody records, manifests, trucking logs, receipts, reports, sample traffic routing, correspondence, or other documents or information related to the Work. Settling Defendants shall also make available to EPA and the State, for purposes of investigation, information gathering, or testimony, their employees, agents, or representatives with knowledge of relevant facts concerning the performance of the Work.

112. Business Confidential and Privileged Documents.

a. Settling Defendants may assert business confidentiality claims covering part or all of the documents or information submitted to Plaintiffs under this Consent Decree to the extent permitted by and in accordance with Section 104(e)(7) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9604(e)(7), and 40 C.F.R. § 2.203(b). Documents or information determined to be confidential by EPA will be afforded the protection specified in 40 C.F.R. Part 2, Subpart B. If no claim of confidentiality accompanies documents or information when they are submitted to EPA and the State, or if EPA has notified Settling Defendants that the documents or information are not confidential under the standards of Section 104(e)(7) of CERCLA or 40 C.F.R. Part 2, Subpart B, the public may be given access to such documents or information without further notice to Settling Defendants.

b. Settling Defendants may assert that certain documents, records and other information are privileged under the attorney-client privilege or any other privilege recognized by federal law. If Settling Defendants assert such a privilege in lieu of providing documents, they shall provide the Plaintiffs with the following: (1) the title of the document, record, or information; (2) the date of the document, record, or information; (3) the name and title of the author of the document, record, or information; (4) the name and title of each addressee and

recipient; (5) a description of the contents of the document, record, or information; and (6) the privilege asserted by Settling Defendants. However, no documents, reports or other information created or generated pursuant to the requirements of the Consent Decree shall be withheld on the grounds that they are privileged.

113. No claim of confidentiality shall be made with respect to any data, including, but not limited to, all sampling, analytical, monitoring, hydrogeologic, scientific, chemical, or engineering data, or any other documents or information evidencing conditions at or around the Site.

XXV. RETENTION OF RECORDS

114. Until 10 years after Settling Defendants' receipt of EPA's notification pursuant to Paragraph 54.b of Section XIV (Certification of Completion of the Work), each Settling Defendant shall preserve and retain all non-identical copies of records and documents (including records or documents in electronic form) now in its possession or control or which come into its possession or control that relate in any manner to its liability under CERCLA with respect to the Site, provided, however, that Settling Defendants who are potentially liable as owners or operators of the Site must retain, in addition, all documents and records that relate to the liability of any other person under CERCLA with respect to the Site. Each Settling Defendant must also retain, and instruct its contractors and agents to preserve, for the same period of time specified above all non-identical copies of the last draft or final version of any documents or records (including documents or records in electronic form) now in its possession or control or which come into its possession or control that relate in any manner to the performance of the Work, provided, however, that each Settling Defendant (and its contractors and agents) must retain, in addition, copies of all data generated during the performance of the Work and not contained in

the aforementioned documents required to be retained. Each of the above record retention requirements shall apply regardless of any corporate retention policy to the contrary.

115. At the conclusion of this document retention period, Settling Defendants shall notify the United States and the State at least 90 days prior to the destruction of any such records or documents, and, upon request by the United States or the State, Settling Defendants shall deliver any such records or documents to EPA or the State. Settling Defendants may assert that certain documents, records and other information are privileged under the attorney-client privilege or any other privilege recognized by federal law. If Settling Defendants assert such a privilege, they shall provide the Plaintiffs with the following: (1) the title of the document, record, or information; (2) the date of the document, record, or information; (3) the name and title of the author of the document, record, or information; (4) the name and title of each addressee and recipient; (5) a description of the subject of the document, record, or information; and (6) the privilege asserted by Settling Defendants. However, no documents, reports or other information created or generated pursuant to the requirements of the Consent Decree shall be withheld on the grounds that they are privileged.

116. Each Settling Defendant hereby certifies individually that, to the best of its knowledge and belief, after thorough inquiry, it has not altered, mutilated, discarded, destroyed or otherwise disposed of any records, documents or other information (other than identical copies) relating to its potential liability regarding the Site since notification of potential liability by the United States or the State or the filing of suit against it regarding the Site and that it has fully complied with any and all EPA requests and State requests for information pursuant to Section 104(e) and 122(e) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. 9604(e) and 9622(e), and Section 3007 of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. 6927, and applicable State statutes and regulations.

XXVI. NOTICES AND SUBMISSIONS

117. Whenever, under the terms of this Consent Decree, written notice is required to be given or a report or other document is required to be sent by one Party to another, it shall be directed to the individuals at the addresses specified below, unless those individuals or their successors give notice of a change to the other Parties in writing. All notices and submissions shall be considered effective upon receipt, unless otherwise provided. Written notice as specified herein shall constitute complete satisfaction of any written notice requirement of the Consent Decree with respect to the United States, EPA, the State, and Settling Defendants, respectively.

As to the United States:

Chief, Environmental Enforcement Section
Environment and Natural Resources Division
U.S. Department of Justice
P.O. Box 7611
Washington, D.C. 20044-7611
Re: DJ # 90-11-3-09142

and

James T. Owens, III, Director
Office of Site Remediation & Restoration
U.S. EPA Region 1
One Congress Street, Suite 1100 (HIO)
Boston, MA 02114-2023

As to EPA:

Anna Krasko
EPA Project Coordinator
U.S. EPA Region 1
One Congress Street, Suite 1100 (HBT)
Boston, MA 02114-2023

As to the Regional Financial Management
Officer:

David Tornstrom
U.S. EPA Region 1
One Congress Street, Suite 1100 (MCO)
Boston, MA 02114-2023

As to the Regional Financial Assurance
Specialist:

John L. Shanahan, Jr.
Search and Cost Recovery Section
U.S. EPA Region I
One Congress Street, Suite 1100 (HBS)
Boston, MA 02114-2023

As to the State :

Gary Jablonski
State Project Coordinator
RIDEM
235 Promenade Street
Providence, RI 02908-5767

As to the Town of Narragansett and the Town of
South Kingstown:

Town Manager
Town of Narragansett
25 Fifth Avenue
Narragansett, RI 02882

Town Manager
Town of South Kingstown
180 High Street, Town Hall
Wakefield, RI 02879

with a copy to:
Alexandra K. Callam, Esq.
Hinckley, Allen & Snyder LLP
50 Kennedy Plaza, Suite 1500
Providence, RI 02903-2319

As to the University of Rhode Island and the
Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher
Education:

J. Vernon Wyman
Assistant Vice President for Business Services
Room 208
210 Flagg Road
University of Rhode Island
Kingston, RI 02881

and

Louis J. Saccoccio, Esq.
General Counsel
Green Hall
35 Campus Avenue
University of Rhode Island
Kingston, RI 02881

with a copy to:
Gregory L. Benik, Esq.
Benik & Associates P.C.
931 Jefferson Boulevard, Suite 2008
Warwick, RI 02886

XXVII. EFFECTIVE DATE

118. The effective date of this Consent Decree shall be the date upon which this
Consent Decree is entered by the Court, except as otherwise provided herein.

XXVIII. RETENTION OF JURISDICTION

119. This Court retains jurisdiction over both the subject matter of this Consent Decree and Settling Defendants for the duration of the performance of the terms and provisions of this Consent Decree for the purpose of enabling any of the Parties to apply to the Court at any time for such further order, direction, and relief as may be necessary or appropriate for the construction or modification of this Consent Decree, or to effectuate or enforce compliance with its terms, or to resolve disputes in accordance with Section XIX (Dispute Resolution) hereof.

XXIX. APPENDICES

120. The following appendices are attached to and incorporated into this Consent Decree:

“Appendix A” is the ROD.

“Appendix B” is the SOW.

“Appendix C” is the description and/or map of the Site.

“Appendix D” is the Draft Easement.

“Appendix E” is the form of Performance Guarantee.

“Appendix F” is a description of projects to address the State’s natural resource damages claim.

XXX. COMMUNITY RELATIONS

121. Settling Defendants shall propose to EPA and the State their participation in the community relations plan to be developed by EPA. After reasonable opportunity for review and comment by the State, EPA will determine the appropriate role for Settling Defendants under the Plan. Settling Defendants shall also cooperate with EPA and the State in providing information regarding the Work to the public. As requested by EPA or the State, Settling Defendants shall

participate in the preparation of such information for dissemination to the public and in public meetings which may be held or sponsored by EPA or the State to explain activities at or relating to the Site.

XXXI. MODIFICATION

122. Material modifications to the SOW may be made only by written notification to and written approval of the United States, Settling Defendants, and the Court. Prior to providing its approval to any modification, the United States will provide the State with a reasonable opportunity to review and comment on the proposed modification.

123. Modifications to the schedules specified in the Consent Decree for completion of the Work, or modifications to the SOW that do not materially alter that document may be made by written agreement between EPA, after providing the State with a reasonable opportunity to review and comment on the proposed modification, and Settling Defendants. Such non-material modifications will become effective upon agreement of the parties.

124. Non-material modifications to the Consent Decree other than those addressed in Paragraph 123 may be made only by written notification to and written approval of the United States, the State and Settling Defendants. Such modifications will become effective upon filing with the Court by the United States. Material modifications to the Consent Decree and any modifications to the Performance Standards may be made only by written notification to and written approval of the United States, the State, Settling Defendants, and the Court.

125. Nothing in this Decree shall be deemed to alter the Court's power to enforce, supervise or approve modifications to this Consent Decree.

126. For purposes of this Section, the Consent Decree shall not include the SOW or other attachments to the Consent Decree.

XXXII. LODGING AND OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

127. This Consent Decree shall be lodged with the Court for a period of not less than thirty (30) days for public notice and comment in accordance with Section 122(d)(2) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9622(d)(2), and 28 C.F.R. § 50.7. The United States reserves the right to withdraw or withhold its consent if the comments regarding the Consent Decree disclose facts or considerations which indicate that the Consent Decree is inappropriate, improper, or inadequate. The State may withdraw or withhold its consent to the entry of this Consent Decree if comments received disclose facts or considerations which show that the Consent Decree violates state law. The United States reserves the right to challenge in court the State withdrawal from the Consent Decree, including the right to argue that the requirements of state law have been waived, pre-empted or otherwise rendered inapplicable by federal law. The State reserves the right to oppose the United States' position taken in opposition to the proposed withdrawal. In addition, in the event of the United States' withdrawal from this Consent Decree, the State reserves its right to withdraw from this Consent Decree. Settling Defendants consent to the entry of this Consent Decree without further notice.

128. If for any reason the Court should decline to approve this Consent Decree in the form presented, this agreement is voidable at the sole discretion of any Party and the terms of the agreement may not be used as evidence in any litigation between the Parties.

XXXIII. SIGNATORIES/SERVICE

129. Each undersigned representative of a Settling Defendant to this Consent Decree certifies that he or she is fully authorized to enter into the terms and conditions of this Consent Decree and to execute and legally bind such Party to this document.

130. Each Settling Defendant hereby agrees not to oppose entry of this Consent Decree

by this Court or to challenge any provision of this Consent Decree unless the United States has notified Settling Defendants in writing that it no longer supports entry of the Consent Decree.

131. Each Settling Defendant shall identify, on the attached signature page, the name, address and telephone number of an agent who is authorized to accept service of process by mail on behalf of that Party with respect to all matters arising under or relating to this Consent Decree. Settling Defendants hereby agree to accept service in that manner and to waive the formal service requirements set forth in Rule 4 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and any applicable local rules of this Court, including, but not limited to, service of a summons. The parties agree that Settling Defendants need not file an answer to the complaint in this action unless or until the court expressly declines to enter this Consent Decree.

XXXIV. FINAL JUDGMENT

132. This Consent Decree and its appendices constitute the final, complete, and exclusive agreement and understanding among the parties with respect to the settlement embodied in the Consent Decree. The parties acknowledge that there are no representations, agreements or understandings relating to the settlement other than those expressly contained in this Consent Decree.

133. Upon approval and entry of this Consent Decree by the Court, this Consent Decree shall constitute a final judgment between and among the United States and Settling Defendants. The Court finds that there is no just reason for delay and therefore enters this judgment as a final judgment under Fed. R. Civ. P. 54 and 58.

SO ORDERED THIS 9th DAY OF March 2009

WEAmm
United States District Judge