



**U.S. Army  
Corps of Engineers**

New England District  
Concord, Massachusetts



**U.S. Environmental  
Protection Agency**

New England Region  
Boston, Massachusetts

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# **HUMAN HEALTH RISK ASSESSMENT GE/HOUSATONIC RIVER SITE REST OF RIVER**

## **VOLUME I**

DCN: GE-021105-ACMT

February 2005

**Environmental Remediation Contract  
GE/Housatonic River Project  
Pittsfield, Massachusetts**

Contract No. DACW33-00-D-0006

Task Order 0003

1 (Derby) and Canal Street (Shelton). There is a state-owned boat launch on the western shore in  
2 Indian Well State Park. Fishing is good for yellow perch and American eel. Fishing for a  
3 number of other species, including smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, sunfish, and brown  
4 bullhead, is regarded as fair (Jacobs and O'Donnell, 2002).

#### 5 **1.4.13 Reach 17**

6 Reach 17, from Derby Dam to Long Island Sound, is 13.7 miles (22.0 km) long (Figure 1-4).  
7 This reach is entirely tidally influenced. It is shallow in its upstream portions and deepens  
8 downstream. The Naugatuck River enters the Housatonic River approximately 2 miles (3.2 km)  
9 from the upstream end of this reach. The Housatonic River flows into Long Island Sound in  
10 Stratford, CT, at the end of this reach. Reach 17 has received inputs of PCBs and other  
11 contaminants from industries in the immediate area and, for that reason, is not included in the  
12 EPA GE/Housatonic River Study, which is focused on contaminants originating from the GE  
13 facility in Pittsfield, MA.

### 14 **1.5 FUTURE USE OF THE SITE**

15 Future plans regarding land use in the towns and communities along the river are important to  
16 the determination of foreseeable uses of the site, including those that could increase future  
17 contact with the Housatonic River and its floodplain. The City of Pittsfield and the towns of  
18 Lenox, Lee, Stockbridge, Great Barrington, and Sheffield are located along the Housatonic River  
19 in the Massachusetts portion of the Rest of River. Downstream of Sheffield is the  
20 Massachusetts/Connecticut border. With the exception of the Schaghticoke tribal area in Kent,  
21 no information on future land use trends was collected in Connecticut, because of the limited  
22 floodplain area and because the PCB concentrations in floodplain soil in Reach 9, immediately  
23 upstream, were largely below detection limits (0.5 ppm tPCB).

24 The following sources were consulted to assist in the determination of reasonably anticipated  
25 future land uses:

- 26       ▪ Interviews with planning officials for Berkshire County, Pittsfield, Lenox, Lee, Great  
27       Barrington, Stockbridge, and Sheffield (conducted in 2001 and 2004).