

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



Mt. Tom Station
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Howard Person
Plant Manager

July 10, 2014

Mr. Stephen Hoffman
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
Two Potomac Yard
2733 South Crystal Drive
5th Floor, N-5838
Arlington, VA 22202-2733

Reference: Shutdown of the Mt. Tom Power Station, Holyoke, Massachusetts, 01040

Dr. Mr. Hoffman,

Last month I called to notify your office that the Mt. Tom Power Station in Holyoke, Massachusetts made the difficult decision to shut-down and mothball the unit. This letter is to follow up on that call and provide some additional information regarding the impoundments at the site.

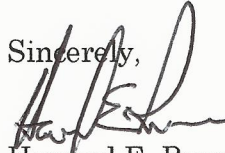
Over the coming weeks and months, Mt. Tom Station will be working to secure major equipment and to minimize environmental exposure after shutdown. As part of that effort, Mt. Tom Station will be working closely with the Massachusetts DEP, not only on requirements for the active basins, but for work associated with an Administrative Consent Order currently in place. We anticipate this process to accelerate over the coming months.

Given that the facility will be mothballed, there are currently no plans to pump any additional bottom ash or water to the Bottom Ash Basin. This basin is currently at a low level (see pictures of the Special and Bottom Ash Basins below), down to the suction line elevation (5 feet). The suction line at this basin will be modified to allow the basin to be drawn down to a very low level. The Special Basin at the Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) will remain in service mainly as a run-off basin to collect rainwater from the site. This facility will be monitored and the Special Basin will be kept at a low level until such time that the WWTF ceases operation and basins are permanently closed.

The Station had planned to start work on hydraulic and stability studies but given the present status of the facility, we believe they are not necessary. Both basins will be kept at low operating levels until such time as they are permanently closed. In the unlikely event that this Station is revitalized at any time in the future, these studies will be immediately undertaken.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Howard E. Person
Plant Manager, Mt. Tom Station

Special Basin 6-24-2014



Special Basin Staff Gage 6-24-2014



Bottom Ash Basin 6-24-2014



cc: David Howland, MADEP