

**From:** Balunis, Timothy G LCDR <Timothy.G.Balunis@uscg.mil>  
**Date:** Thu, Jun 26, 2014 at 2:45 PM  
**Subject:** RE: GAC Chemical issue, FOPB's liaison with Coast Guard  
**To:** "coastwatch@gmail.com" <coastwatch@gmail.com>, Bob Huber <abidingriver3@gmail.com>  
**Cc:** Friends of Penobscot Bay BOD <penbay@googlegroups.com>

Messrs. Huber:

Thank you for following up with us regarding the National Response Center (NRC) report you filed on 3 June. As the Coast Guard does with all NRC reports it receives, we conducted a preliminary investigation of the alleged pollution at Kidder Point. This included a review of the records provided by your group, as well as the long-running investigation of the site by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

Having completed this review, the Coast Guard has determined that Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is appropriately the lead agency for this investigation. Although we partner closely with Maine DEP in responding to reports of marine pollution, we typically do not respond to non-time critical, non-point source pollution. We note that since 1998, and perhaps earlier, DEP has investigated the site on multiple occasions to substantiate reports of soil contamination/run-off in the area. The Coast Guard will close its investigation of the original report, and defers to DEP's investigation and findings regarding the site moving forward. Similarly, we engaged the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in the course of our investigation, but cannot speak to any future actions on their part.

In speaking with leadership at GAC Chemical regarding the alleged pollution, they articulated their intentions to stabilize the shoreline and address erosion issues on some parts of the site. We strongly encouraged them to follow through with those plans.

Finally, a point of clarification regarding the characterization of the site. Contrary to what has been reported recently in local media, this site is NOT a Superfund site. Your notification of 3 June was a National Response Center (NRC) report, not a "Superfund Incident Report" as has been reported in the media. Characterizing the site as such is inaccurate and misleading to the public.

If you would like access to our internal files, please initiate a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request. Thank you.

Very Respectfully,

LCDR Timothy Balunis, Jr.  
Chief, Incident Management Division  
Coast Guard Sector Northern New England