



JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



MELANIE LOYZIM
COMMISSIONER

June 25, 2024

Jessica Damon
Maine Department of Environmental Protection
Eastern Maine Regional Office
106 Hogan Road, Suite 6
Bangor, Maine 04401

RE: GAC Chemical, 34 Kidder Point Road, Searsport—Repair of the damaged shorefront in remedial action area

Dear Jessica,

In 2016, the Division of Remediation of the Maine Department of Environmental Protection supervised the remedial activities addressing contamination from the former sulfuric acid plant at the GAC Chemical plant located at 34 Kidder Point Road in Searsport, Maine. The winter and spring severe storm events of the past year damaged the shoreline in the remedial action area, threatening the continued long-term efficiency of the remedy.

Acidic runoff from the in-situ wastes at the former sulfuric acid plant was leading to low pH leachate reaching the intertidal zone. The remedial actions removed much of the large waste materials (elemental sulfur) for offsite disposal; the remaining soils/waste mix was treated with high pH amendments to decrease acidity of the leachate. Post remedial-action testing showed a significant improvement in the pH (i.e. an increase approaching neutral) leaching from this area.

GAC is submitting a NRPA Permit By Rule application to restore the damaged shoreline, which is an important piece of the remedy. The Division of Remediation, as the regulatory body overseeing the remedial project, as the listed agent, will be supporting and overseeing the repairs, encouraging a full restoration and a more robust armoring of the remedial action area to insure its' durability in the future, as the frequency and severity of these storms seems to be a more permanent feature of our weather.

This project will be completed pursuant to Section 13 of the PBR rules, "Habitat creation or enhancement and water quality improvement activities." The primary purpose of the original remedial action was to improve water quality, and this restoration will support that objective.

AUGUSTA
1 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0017
(207) 287-7688 FAX: (207) 287-7836

BANGOR
106 HOGAN ROAD, SUITE 6
BANGOR, MAINE 04401
(207) 941-4570 FAX: (207) 941-4684

PORTLAND
312 CANCO ROAD
PORTLAND, MAINE 04103
(207) 822-6300 FAX: (207) 822-6303

PRESQUE ISLE
1235 CENTRAL DRIVE, SKYWAY PARK
PRESQUE ISLE, MAINE 04769
(207) 764-6477 FAX: (207) 760-3143

If you have any questions now or during the project, please let me know by calling me at 207-592-0882 or email at nick.hodgkins@maine.gov.

Sincerely,



Nicholas J. Hodgkins, Director
Division of Remediation
Bureau of Remediation & Waste Management

Cc: David Colter, GAC Chemical
John Pond, Haley Ward
Johanna Szillery, Haley Ward