

The Town of Canton recently received a Tier IB Permit Extension Application for DCR Canton Airport property that is undergoing clean-up and remediation as part of a state action. The regulatory status of the site has not changed, nor is DCR proposing any new remediation to address site contamination. The original clean-up schedule has shifted slightly to accommodate regulatory requirements that have required additional time to complete, which has prompted the extension of time for the permit. DCR expects the site work to be completed mid-2012, pending resolution of the ecological health risk assessment presently under review by US EPA.

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) is continuing remediation and construction work at the Canton Airport in accordance with local, state and federal permits. The work was split into 2 construction phases. Phase 1 consisted of soil remediation, and off-site disposal of polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) contaminated soil. Phase 1 work was completed in June 2011. Phase 2, which consists of construction of a permeable cap over PCB impacted soil and construction of park features including parking area, information kiosk, trails, etc., was bid earlier this year and contract awarded in July 2011 with site work to be completed within one year of award.

While the remaining site work has been bid and awarded, US EPA has not completed its review of the ecological risk assessment prepared by GEI Consultants, Inc., DCR's Licensed Site Professional (LSP) for the site. This risk assessment is required to support the remedial plan to document that PCBs remain in isolated, generally inaccessible, areas of the site that, while low concentrations, exceed EPA residential cleanup levels for PCBs in soil.

If EPA finds the proposed clean-up standards acceptable, DCR will proceed with the Phase 2 construction plans prepared by GEI Consultants as being sufficiently protective of public health for unrestricted public access to the property.

If EPA finds the proposed clean-up standards unacceptable, DCR will be required to modify the proposed remediation to accommodate the additional areas that have soil concentrations above the EPA threshold.

Town of Canton received this permit extension application as an informational notice for the project, and is not required to take any action as a result of this notification. If you have any additional questions, please contact Michael Misslin, Chief Engineer, or Robert Lowell, Environmental Section Chief.

Sincerely,

Robert Lowell

Environmental Section Chief

DCR 251 Causeway Street, Ste. 600 Boston, MA 02114