



**Maryland**  
Department of  
the Environment

Larry Hogan, Governor  
Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor

Ben Grumbles, Secretary  
Horacio Tablada, Deputy Secretary

June 19, 2019

**CERTIFIED MAIL**

**RE: INFORMATIONAL NOTIFICATION LETTER**

**Case No. 2019-0724-CE  
Pantry One Food Mart  
1897 Conowingo Road, Rising Sun  
Cecil County, Maryland  
Facility I.D. No. 11347**

Dear Resident or Property Owner:

This letter is provided in compliance with Section 4-411.2 of the Environment Article, Annotated Code of Maryland. The intent of this letter is to notify you that petroleum-related compounds have been detected in a groundwater monitoring well sample at the above-referenced property at a concentration exceeding the statutory notification level. As a property owner within 0.5-mile of the subject property (see enclosed map), notification is required to be submitted to you to provide information about the detection at the referenced service station.

The Maryland Department of the Environment's (MDE) Oil Control Program (OCP) has opened a new groundwater investigation case for the Pantry One Food Mart. On June 5, 2019, MDE received notification that dissolved phase petroleum impacts were detected in water samples collected from monitoring wells MW-1, MW-2, and MW-3 on Oct. 18, 2019. The petroleum-related compound benzene was detected at concentrations ranging from 6.6 to 220 parts per billion (ppb), which exceed the notification standard of 5 ppb. In response to the detections and delay in receiving the Oct. 2018 results, the OCP required the collection of confirmation samples from MW-1, MW-2, MW-3, and the on-site drinking water supply well.

The confirmation samples were collected on June 10, 2019. The analytical results for the drinking water well sample was non-detect for petroleum constituents. The analytical results for the groundwater monitoring well samples exhibited concentrations of the following petroleum constituents above MDE's groundwater standards:

- Benzene in MW-2 and MW-3 ranging from 9.21 to 2,320 ppb, which exceeds the 5 ppb standard;
- Toluene in MW-2 at 16,100 ppb, which exceeds the 1,000 ppb standard;
- Ethylbenzene in MW-2 at 2,440 ppb, which exceeds the 700 ppb standard;
- Xylenes in MW-2 at 12,020 ppb, which exceeds the 10,000 ppb standard; and
- MTBE in MW-2 at 34.9 ppb, which exceeds the 20 ppb standard.

The MDE has informed the Cecil County Health Department (CCHD) of the detections and of the open groundwater investigation. The MDE is working with the CCHD to evaluate the risks to the community associated with the detections. At this time, MDE has scheduled a full compliance audit of the facility, to include updated system tightness testing. In addition, MDE has selected an initial group of private drinking water wells in the vicinity of the station for sampling. The MDE will evaluate the results of these initial measures and determine if Fahmida, LLC, will be required to perform additional actions. Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated.

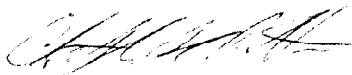
The MDE and CCHD will continue monitor this property to ensure community safety. This will include evaluation of the property and monitoring of the situation until Fahmida, LLC has properly investigated and mitigated the contamination to the satisfaction of MDE.

If your property has not been selected within the initial group for sampling, you may elect to have your well water tested by a private laboratory. Your decision should be based on the proximity of your well to the source of the contamination and whether or not you have noticed any change in the taste or odor of your well water. For your convenience, enclosed is a list of private laboratories that can assist you should you decide to have your well water tested privately. The recommended test to request is U.S. EPA Method 524.2 for full-suite volatile organic compounds (VOCs), including fuel oxygenates and naphthalene. Samples should be collected by a certified sampler and prior to the water passing through any treatment device.

A project *Fact Sheet* has been prepared to provide information regarding the site (enclosed). The *Fact Sheet* will be updated periodically as the case progresses. The *Fact Sheet* and other documents related to the investigation will be posted to the Oil Control Program's Remediation Sites internet page: <https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/LAND/OilControl/Pages/remediationsites.aspx>.

If you have any questions, please contact the case manager, Ms. Lindley Campbell, at 410-537-3387 or [lindley.campbell1@maryland.gov](mailto:lindley.campbell1@maryland.gov).

Sincerely,



Christopher H. Ralston, Program Manager  
Oil Control Program

Enclosures: Map  
Fact Sheet  
Testing Laboratory List

cc: Mr. Aijaz Shaikh (Fahmida, LLC)  
Mr. Fred von Staden (Cecil County Health Department)  
Mr. Andrew B. Miller (Chief, Remediation and State-Lead Division, Oil Control Program)  
Ms. Kaley Laleker (Director, Land and Materials Administration)



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## **FACTS ABOUT: Pantry One Food Mart**

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### **GROUNDWATER INVESTIGATION PANTRY ONE FOOD MART 1897 CONOWINGO ROAD, RISING SUN CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND OCP CASE NOS. 2019-0724-CE (OPEN) and 2004-0700-CE (CLOSED)**

#### **SITE LOCATION**

The Maryland Department of the Environment's (MDE) Oil Control Program (OCP) received notification of elevated petroleum constituents in the groundwater and is currently evaluating this notification for the Pantry One Food Mart, located at 1897 Conowingo Road in Rising Sun. This facility is owned and operated by Fahmida, LLC and has been an active gasoline retail station since the late 1990s. In August 1999, two underground storage tanks (USTs), currently in use, were installed at the site: a 12,000-gallon gasohol and a compartmentalized 12,000-gallon gasohol, diesel, and kerosene. The USTs are double-walled composite steel with a fiberglass-reinforced plastic outer wall and double-walled flexible plastic piping. In August 2018, the tank containment sumps and boots were replaced and select piping lines were upgraded. Currently, three groundwater monitoring wells and a transient non-community drinking water supply well are located on site.

#### **SITE HISTORY**

In October 2003, representatives of the OCP conducted a compliance inspection at the subject facility. Following this inspection, Case No. 2004-0700-CE was opened. In November 2005, MDE received the initial annual groundwater sampling results for the three monitoring wells installed pursuant to the State's high-risk groundwater use area (HRGUA) regulations, Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 26.10.02.03-4. Initial sampling results for the monitoring wells and on-site supply well were below regulatory levels for petroleum constituents. The operational compliance of this station and the groundwater were monitored under Case No. 2004-0700-CE until May 21, 2015, when the case was closed. Based on the location of this facility in a HRGUA area, a contingency of case closure was continued annual monitoring of the on-site drinking water supply well and the groundwater monitoring well network.



## **ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATION AND ACTIONS**

On June 5, 2019, MDE received notification of the detection of a dissolved phase petroleum-related constituent in all three monitoring wells at concentrations exceeding the regulatory standard. Benzene was detected at concentrations ranging from 6.6 to 220 parts per billion (ppb) during the October 18, 2018 sampling event, which exceed the regulatory standard of 5 ppb. In response to the detections and because of the delay in MDE receiving the October 2018 data, the OCP required the collection of confirmation samples from MW-1, MW-2, and MW-3, and the drinking water supply well. The analytical results for the confirmatory samples collected on June 10, 2019 were non-detect for petroleum constituents in the supply well. The analytical results for the groundwater monitoring well samples exhibited concentrations of the following petroleum constituents above MDE's groundwater standards:

- Benzene in MW-2 and MW-3 ranging from 9.21 to 2,320 ppb, which is above the 5 ppb standard;
- Toluene in MW-2 at 16,100 ppb, which is above the 1,000 ppb standard;
- Ethylbenzene in MW-2 at 2,440 ppb, which is above the 700 ppb standard;
- Xylene in MW-2 at 12,020 ppb, which is above the 10,000 ppb standard; and
- Methyl tertiary-butyl ether (MTBE) in MW-2 at 34.9 ppb, which is above the 20 ppb standard.

## **CURRENT STATUS**

Based on the June 10, 2019 confirmed detections of petroleum constituents, MDE scheduled a full compliance audit of the facility that will include updated UST system tightness testing. In addition, the responsible party, Fahmida LLC, has been directed to sample select private drinking water supply wells in the vicinity of the station. The MDE will evaluate the results of these initial measures and determine if Fahmida LLC will be required to perform additional actions.

## **FUTURE UPDATES**

- Postings available on [www.mde.maryland.gov](http://www.mde.maryland.gov)
- File available at MDE's headquarters in Baltimore.

## **CONTACTS**

- Oil Control Program: 410-537-3442 or 1-800-633-6101, ext. 3442
- Cecil County Health Department: 410-996-5550
- Pantry One Food Mart & Gas: 410-658-8557

## **DISCLAIMER**

The intent of this fact sheet is to provide the reader a summary of site events as they are contained within documents available to MDE. To fully understand the site and surrounding environmental conditions, MDE recommends that the reader review the case file, which can be requested through the Public Information Act. The inclusion of a person or company's name within this fact sheet is for informational purposes only and should not be considered a conclusion by MDE on liability, involvement in a wrongful act, or contribution to environmental damage.

# MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Land and Materials Administration • Oil Control Program

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## LABORATORIES

The laboratories listed below are capable of analyzing samples for the purpose of testing for petroleum hydrocarbons. You are encouraged to fully discuss with the company you select the issues associated with sampling for fuel oxygenates, such as methyl tertiary-butyl ether (MTBE), tertiary-amyl methyl ether (TAME), diisopropyl ether (DIPE), and tertiary-butyl alcohol (TBA).

**Please note that EPA Method 524.2 is the recommended method for laboratory analysis of groundwater samples collected from drinking water supply wells since petroleum compounds of concern can be detected at very low levels using this specific method. EPA Method 524.2 encompasses a wide range of petroleum hydrocarbons such as benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylene (BTEX), in addition to fuel oxygenates such as MTBE. Please note that you should verify with each laboratory if they are certified in Maryland to collect drinking water samples.**

Companies with an asterisk (\*) have notified the Oil Control Program that they are prepared to either test for the suite of common fuel oxygenates following the U.S. EPA's validated analytical methods for common fuel oxygenates or they have taken the necessary alternative steps to determine the levels of fuel oxygenates in water and soil. Contact these companies to be fully informed of the sample preservation method they require prior to your sampling event. For more information, access EPA's Underground Storage Tank Fact Sheet – Analytical Methodologies for Fuel Oxygenates at [www.epa.gov/oust/mtbe/omethods.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/oust/mtbe/omethods.pdf).

The Maryland Department of the Environment assembled this list from the best available information at the time of preparation. The Department makes no claim as to the list's completeness or to the quality of work performed by these laboratories. Inclusion on this list is not to be considered an endorsement by the State of Maryland.

### **Aardvark Water Testing Laboratory, Inc.\***

260 Gateway Drive, Suite 3A  
Bel Air, Maryland 21014  
410-893-5257

### **Anabell Environmental, Inc.\***

8648 Dakota Drive  
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20877  
301-548-9425

### **Analytical Laboratory Services, Inc.\***

8965 Guilford Road, Suite 100  
Columbia, Maryland 21046  
410-290-8884

### **Caliber Analytical Services, LLC\***

8851 Orchard Tree Lane  
Towson, Maryland 21286  
410-825-1151

### **Chemtech**

284 Sheffield Street  
Mountainside New Jersey 07092  
908-728-3142

### **Chesapeake Environmental Lab, Inc.**

P.O. Box 946  
Stevensville Maryland 21666  
410-643-0800  
1-800-300-TEST

### **ECS Mid-Atlantic, LLC**

1340 Charwood Road, Suite P  
Hanover, Maryland 21076  
410-859-4300

### **Enviro-Chem Laboratories, Inc.**

47 Loveton Circle, Suite K  
Sparks, Maryland 21152  
410-472-1112

**Environmental Management Services, Inc.**

1688 East Gude Drive, Suite 301  
Rockville, Maryland 20850  
301-309-0475

**Envirosystems, Inc.**

9200 Rumsey Road, Suite B102  
Columbia, Maryland 21045-1934  
410-964-0330

**Federated Environmental Assoc., Inc.**

1314 Bedford Avenue  
Baltimore, Maryland 21208  
410-653-8434

**Fountain Valley Analytical Laboratory, Inc.**

1413 Old Taneytown Road  
Westminster, Maryland 21158  
410-848-1014

**Fredericktowne Lab, Inc.\***

3039-C Ventrice Court, P.O. Box 244  
Myersville, Maryland 21773  
301-293-3340

**GPL Laboratories, LLLP**

7210 Corporate Court, Suite A  
Frederick, Maryland 21703  
301-694-5310

**Martel Laboratories JDS, Inc.\***

1025 Cromwell Bridge Road  
Baltimore, Maryland 21204  
410-825-7790

**Maryland Spectral Services, Inc.\***

1500 Caton Center Drive, Suite G  
Baltimore, Maryland 21227  
410-247-7600

**Microbac Laboratories, Inc.\***

2101 Van Deman Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21224-6697  
410-633-1800

**Penniman & Browne, Inc.**

6252 Falls Road  
Baltimore, Maryland 21209  
410-825-4131

**Phase Separation Science, Inc.\***

6630 Baltimore National Pike  
Baltimore, Maryland 21228  
410-747-8770

**Trace Laboratories, Inc.\***

5 North Park Drive  
Hunt Valley, Maryland 21030  
410-584-9099

