

**MD-315  
Baltimore County**

**CIRCUIT CITY  
Baltimore, Maryland**

1950s	Marietta Concrete Corporation owned property.
1960s-1988	Balcon Concrete Company operated concrete block manufacturing business on the site.
1988	Circuit City arranged for environmental audit prior to purchase of property; aboveground and underground storage tanks were discovered.
1989	A supplemental investigation prepared and UST's removed.  Three monitoring wells were installed.  Phase II environmental audit performed and five more monitoring wells were installed.  Four USTs removed.  Soil from USTs land farmed for aeration.  HSWMA prepared a <i>Preliminary Assessment</i> report and recommended a medium priority site inspection and installation of deeper wells.  Oil Control Program determined UST remediation complete.
1990	A deep well was installed and sampled.
1993	Soil from land farm pile sampled and returned to original excavation.
2000	Oil Control Program closed file for this facility.

**Site Location**

The 7.7-acre Circuit City site is located to the northeast of Baltimore in Baltimore County, Maryland. The site is bounded by Pulaski Highway to the north and northwest, an unnamed equipment storage yard to the northeast, tracks of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad to the southeast, Rossville Boulevard to the southwest, and a small shopping plaza to the west. In the past, the southwestern portion of the property contained structures of various sizes, including a main production building, an office building, warehouse, parts building, cottage, and storage shed. The area surrounding the property is mostly an industrial park. The geographic coordinates of the site are 39° 20'16" North and -76° 28' 42" West.

**Site History**

The Circuit City property was used for agricultural purposes in the 1940s, although it is not known what kind of agriculture was practiced. In the 1950s, the property was owned by Marietta Concrete Corporation and in April 1959, was conveyed to Boyd Ross and J. Darwin Ross. It is not clear when Balcon Concrete Company acquired the site but Balcon owned the property from the 1960s until 1988. Records at the Baltimore County deed office show that Circuit City acquired the property on December 13, 1988.

Balcon Concrete Corporation operated a concrete block manufacturing business on the site from the 1960s until 1988. Materials used during the manufacturing operations included sand, cement, limestone, and iron oxide pigments. Support activities required the use of hydraulic fuel and diesel oils, which were stored in four underground storage tanks (USTs) and three aboveground storage tanks.

**Environmental Investigations**

Circuit City arranged for an environmental audit of the property in July 1988, prior to purchasing the site. As a result of the audit, three abandoned aboveground storage tanks and four USTs were discovered on the property. The tanks formerly contained hydraulic oil, fuel oil, and diesel oil and could have leaked in the past. One of the tanks contained 388 gallons of waste gasoline at the time it was excavated and removed from the ground. The soil in the vicinity of the aboveground hydraulic oil tank was saturated with oil.

A supplemental investigation was performed at the site in December 1988 and January 1989. As part of the investigation, the USTs were removed and soil samples were collected below each tank for chemical analysis. Soil from three of the four tanks was contaminated but was considered nonhazardous. The soil was stockpiled on site to bioremediate (evaporate) the volatile compounds. The hydraulic oil tank was disposed of off site as nonhazardous waste. The saturated soils beneath the tank were excavated, analyzed, and disposed of off site as nonhazardous waste. Three groundwater-monitoring wells were installed and sampled during the supplemental investigation. Elevated levels of benzene and 1,2-dichloroethane were detected in one downgradient well.

A Phase II environmental audit was performed in April 1989, during which, five additional monitoring wells were installed. Results of the chemical analyses of soil from the borings showed that remediation would not be required for the *in-situ* soil. Groundwater samples indicated a localized groundwater plume with benzene contamination in two wells at levels exceeding the Maximum Contaminant Level for drinking water.

In November 1989, the Maryland Department of the Environment's (MDE), Hazardous and Solid Waste Management Administration (HSWMA) prepared a *Preliminary Assessment* report for the Circuit City site. The report noted the contaminated soil had been removed and the entire property was paved except for the land formerly occupied by the buildings, which had been demolished. The report recommended a medium priority screening site inspection and installation of deeper wells.

In 1990, a deep well was installed at the Circuit City site. No contaminants were detected above the detection limit in two rounds of sampling, and MDE recommended No Further Remedial Action Planned (NFRAP) under the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act. However, MDE required additional monitoring and remediation of the shallow aquifer owing to levels of contaminants in the shallow aquifer exceeding EPA drinking water standards.

In August 1993, 10,000 to 15,000 cubic yards of soil that had been land farmed were re-sampled by Dames and Moore. Based on the favorable results, the soil was returned to the original excavation.

In June 2000, MDE's Oil Control Program closed the file for this facility.

### ***Current Status***

This site is on the State Master List that identifies potential hazardous waste sites in Maryland. The Master List includes sites currently identified by the EPA Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Information System. EPA has given the site a designation of NFRAP. The designation of NFRAP by EPA does not mean that MDE has reached the same conclusion concerning further investigation at the site. The information contained in the fact sheet presents a summary of past investigations and site conditions currently known to MDE.

### ***Facility Contact***

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