



Maryland Department of the
Environment

FACTS ABOUT: DELUXE CLEANERS

Site Location

The flat 0.179-acre site is located at 32 W Mechanic Street, in Frostburg, Allegany County, Maryland on Allegany County tax map 0201 as parcel 0810 in Congressional District 6. The site is situated in a predominantly residential and commercial area in the center of Frostburg. The property contains one 4,480 square feet, two-story building. The center of the site is at 39° 39' 27.63" north latitude and 078° 55' 47.45" west longitude.

Site History

Property records were traced back to June 8, 1948 when John Stewart et ux. transferred the property to The Emca Company. On October 26, 1971, The Emca Company transferred the property to Deluxe Cleaners, Inc. On May 6, 1994, Deluxe Cleaners, Inc. transferred the property to John and James Steele. On June 29, 1998, John and James Steele transferred the property to John and Eileen Steele. On December 30, 2004, John and Eileen Steele transferred the property to John F. Steele.

The facility operated from sometime prior to 1955 and according to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Envirofacts website for this facility, until sometime prior to March 2002. The last full compliance evaluation was conducted by MDE's Air and Radiation Management Administration (ARMA) on September 22, 1993. The last air emissions data was reported to ARMA in 1989. EPA's Envirofacts website identifies the facility as ID 110038931190 and Air Facility no. 2400100119 and lists volatile organic compounds as the pollutant/CAS description. It is not known which specific dry cleaning solvents or methods were used at this site. Currently, the property is zoned "commercial," and consists of a two-story multiple residence that houses four apartments.

Environmental Investigations

In 2008, MDE completed a Dry Cleaners Initiative report, funded by the EPA. As part of this study, the facility was identified in a 1955 Allegany County telephone book and was also identified on ARMA's 2007 list of permitted air facilities. Deluxe Cleaners was then designated as a Priority Level II dry cleaner having operated for more than 50 years and placed onto the EPA's Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Information System (CERCLIS) as a result of an MDE March 20, 2012 pre-



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CERCLIS screening study. EPA approved MDE's Preliminary Assessment/Sampling and Analysis Plan on January 10, 2013 to determine if potential releases of dry cleaning solvents from past dry cleaning operations have created indoor air threats to existing and future tenants. The property owner has denied MDE's request to access the site. On January 28, 2014, MDE contacted the City of Frostburg to request access to six open municipal properties nearby in order to determine if potential releases of dry cleaning solvents have migrated off site. In a letter dated February 19, 2014, the City of Frostburg denied access to those municipal properties. There have been no known environmental investigations at the Deluxe Cleaners site.

Current Status

The site remains on CERCLIS as a potentially contaminated property.



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