



Maryland Department  
of the Environment

## **FACTS ABOUT: Former PECO Service Building (VOLUNTARY CLEANUP PROGRAM)**

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### **Site Location**

This 9.3-acre property is located at the northwest corner of Bridge and High Streets in a mixed commercial, light industrial, and residential part of Elkton, Cecil County, Maryland. A small, unnamed stream traverses the northwestern part of the property. The area generally slopes to the south-southeast towards Big Elk Creek. The property is serviced by municipal water and sewer.

### **Site History**

The property was developed in the early 1900s when it may have been part of McQuilkin Machine Works. In the 1920s, the southeast area of the property was occupied by the Gilpin Falls Electric Company and the Stanley Evans Lumber Company. The 1931 Sanborn map indicates that the Mac's Laundry, Inc. facility was located at the southeast boundary of the property. The property was then used as administrative offices and a maintenance garage to support operations of electrical utility companies, Conowingo Power Company and later PECO Energy Company (PECO), until it was decommissioned in 1995.

### **Environmental Investigations And Actions**

Environmental due diligence was performed by PECO prior to the 1995 acquisition which included Phase I and Phase II Environmental Site Assessments (ESAs) completed by NTH Consultants, Ltd. (NTH). Sixteen areas of concern were identified and investigated during the ESAs. NTH concluded that volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in groundwater were migrating onto the site from documented off-site sources. Jacques Whitford Company, Inc. (Jacques Whitford) completed a Phase I ESA and Phase II ESA in June 2004 and April 2005, respectively. Metals, polychlorinated biphenyls, and total petroleum hydrocarbons were identified in soil and/or sediment samples at concentrations above the cleanup standards. The wooden transformer platforms and contaminated soils were removed and disposed in July 2005. Jacques Whitford completed another Phase I ESA in November 2006 for the Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP) application.

### **Current Status**

In November 2006, PECO submitted a VCP application for the property as a responsible person. The VCP issued comments on the application package in January 2007. In September 2007, the proposed future property use was revised from residential to commercial. The supplemental site investigation reports were submitted in August 2008, February 2009, and November 2009. The property was accepted into the VCP in January



2010 with the requirement that a response action plan (RAP) be developed. The proposed RAP which provided for soil excavation and engineering cap maintenance was submitted in June 2011. A public informational meeting regarding the proposed RAP was held in August 2011. The revised RAP was approved in November 2012. The remedial action was completed and the Maryland Department of the Environment issued the Certification of Completion letter for the property in December 2015. Planned future property use will continue as commercial.

