



Facts About...

3508-3520 Fairfield Road
(Voluntary Cleanup Program)

Site Location

The 3508-3520 Fairfield Road property is a 6.04-acre property located in Baltimore City, Maryland. The property is bounded to the north by Rhodia, Inc., a chemical manufacturer, to the east by Fairfield Road and BP/Motiva Enterprises, LLC, a petroleum refining and storage facility, beyond, to the northwest by Sasol North America, Inc, a petroleum refinery and to the south and west by Farmers Machining Corporation (FMC), a petrochemical and agricultural chemical manufacturing facility.

Site History

The property operated as a chemical manufacturing, mixing and distribution facility dating back to at least 1936. The earliest known operator was US Industrial Chemical Company who operated at the site until 1946 when it was sold to Armor Tread Company, a tire and rubber manufacturer. The exact ownership history is unknown, but Minerec Corporations operated on the property between 1936 and 1979. Essex Industrial Chemical, Inc. owned and operated on the 3520 Fairfield Road portion of the property from 1979 to 1995 for chemical manufacturing of non-ferrous mining chemicals. In 1988, a portion of the property was sold to Essebelt, a chemical manufacturing company. In 1995, Fairfield Properties, LLC purchased the property and began leasing it to various heavy industrial and commercial tenants including Mid-States Oil Refining Company, Inc., which performs waste oil and ethylene glycol processing and recycling, World Class Packaging, which stores and manufactures Styrofoam, Basic Chemical Solutions, LLC, which operates an industrial cleaning solution formulation facility and various commercial tenants including Ace Environmental Services, Allied Environmental, Abacorp and Cell Physics.

Environmental Investigations and Actions

A Consent Order (CO) for the Essex Industrial Chemical Company, Inc. was issued by the Hazardous Waste Division (HWD) in 1989 that required collection of soil gas samples, source investigation and groundwater monitoring at the property. Groundwater monitoring conducted from June 1989 through June 1991 demonstrated the presence of acetone, benzene, carbon disulfide, 1,2-dichloroethane, ethyl ether, methylene chloride, 2-butanone, 4-methyl-2-pentanone, and toluene. The consent order was closed on July 27, 2007 after the HWD reviewed the data submitted to the Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP).

In December 2004, a Phase I environmental site assessment (ESA) was completed at the property that recommended the collection of groundwater samples with analysis for volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs). Groundwater samples were subsequently collected and analyzed from nine monitoring wells for VOCs and SVOCs. The results identified low levels of contamination by tetrachloroethene, methyl isobutyl ketone, bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate and 4-methylphenol.

In 2006, MDE completed a preliminary assessment of the Essex Industrial Chemical facility (MD-538) that concluded that additional investigation of the groundwater be completed due to a 10 year lapse of time since previous investigations were completed.



In 2007, a Phase I ESA was conducted on the property that identified previous and current uses of the property as potential sources of contamination. In addition, the assessment documented the presence of staining, a drum storage, paint and paint solvents, and groundwater monitoring wells on the property. A Phase II ESA was completed in 2007 that included the collection of 20 soil samples and 10 groundwater samples. SVOCs and metals were detected in the soil and VOCs, SVOCs and metals were detected in the ground water.

In June 2008, an additional Phase II subsurface investigation was completed to meet the VCP requirements. Soil samples were collected and analyzed for SVOCs, pesticides, PCBs and VOCs. Groundwater samples were analyzed for diesel range organics, gasoline range organics and pH and groundwater level measurements were collected to determine groundwater flow direction.

Current Status

On May 3, 2007, Chesapeake Green Fuels, LLC submitted an application to the VCP as an inculpable person for future industrial use for the property. A No Further Requirements Determination (NFRD) was issued on August 7, 2007 and reissued on June 24, 2008 for recording purposes. The NFRD restricted the property use for restricted commercial (Tier 2B) or restricted industrial (Tier 3B) purposes, prohibited the use of the groundwater for any purpose and requires a health and safety plan, proper containerization and disposal of groundwater if groundwater is encountered during excavation.

Contact

For more information, please contact the Land Restoration Program at (410) 537-3493.

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