



# ***Facts About...***

GE Railcar Repair Services  
(Voluntary Cleanup Program)

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## **Site Location**

The GE Railcar Repair Services property is located in Cecil County, at 505 Blue Road in Triumph Industrial Park in Elkton, Maryland. The property, mostly vacant GE facility, includes three tax parcels 458, 300, and 594 comprising 31.57 acres. Adjacent properties include Thiokol Corporation to the northwest and southwest; Maryland Cork Company to the west; agricultural property to the north; IPI Northeast and Shult Business Center to the east; and Central Chemical to the south. The property has been vacant since the late 1980s.

## **Site History**

The facility functioned as a rail car cleaning and repair facility that was known to work extensively on tanker type rail cars. The facility handled all types of mechanical repairs and maintenance of freight cars. The repair and maintenance included: steel fabrication, welding, cutting, and brazing. The facility also steam cleaned, sandblasted, and painted the interior and the exterior of rail cars. GE closed the facility in 1988. GE has performed, under the direction of the Maryland Department of the Environment, various investigations and closure activities. Prior to GE, several other companies owned and/or managed the property, including a fireworks manufacturing facility, U.S. Navy, and various chemical facilities. Benzene, chlorobenzene, chloromethane and chlorinated solvents have been detected in ground water.

## **Environmental Investigations**

On October 1999, EPA conducted an Environmental Indicator (EI) inspection at this facility to determine whether or not human exposures and groundwater releases are under control. EPA determined that more information is necessary. GE submitted a Site Investigation Workplan to EPA, which was approved in August 2001. Site investigations were completed in the fall of 2002, and included surface soil sampling at three areas that managed hazardous wastes, surface water sampling, installation of groundwater monitoring wells and groundwater sampling. EPA received the final report in August 2002 and approved it in May 2003. GE submitted plans for further work, which includes a pilot study to remediate on-site contaminated ground water, an investigation to delineate off-site ground water contamination, and further on-site soil investigations. EPA approved these workplans, and field work is underway and should be completed by 2004.

GE agreed to perform the investigations pursuant to the Region's Facility Lead Corrective Action Agreement, which was signed on October 9, 2001. The Environmental Indicator Forms discuss that current human exposure to site contaminants is under control, and that further data is needed to determine whether migration of contaminated ground water is under control. RCRA Corrective Action activities at this facility are being conducted under the direction of U.S. EPA - Region 3, with assistance from the State.



## **Current Status**

In September 2001, GE Rail Services submitted a Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP) application seeking a Certification of Completion as a responsible person for this property. The VCP comments on application were issued on November 9, 2001. Any outstanding VCP requirements will be addressed following completion of EPA's RCRA Corrective Action activities at this facility.

## **Contact**

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

**Last Update:** October 2009

