

MD-472
Cecil County

1938	Property developed.
1948-1953	Property owned by Bayshore Industries.
1953-1964	Property privately owned.
1964-1969	Property owners included Cecil Whig Publishing Company and Milwill Realty Corp.
1969	RMR Corp. purchased the property.
1978-Present	Interest in the property held by JMR Corp.
1989	RMR declared bankruptcy and building was boarded up.
7/1994	A tornado struck the building causing severe damage.
1994/2995	Removal action performed by EPA & MDE.
8/21/01	Schwab LLC, III submitted a VCP application as an inculpable person seeking a Certificate of Completion Determination.

RMR, JMR CORPORATION PROPERTY
655 North Bridge Street
Cecil County, Maryland
(Voluntary Cleanup Program)

Site Description

The 3.875-acre RMR, JMR Corporation property is located in a mixed-use area in the town of Elkton. Improvements include a single story building (107,000 square feet) that manufactured fractional (< 1) horsepower electric motors.

The nearest surface water bodies to the site are Dogwood Run located 2,000 ft. to the northeast, Little Elk Creek located 2,800 ft. to the west-southwest, and Big Elk Creek located 2,800 ft. to the east. The Little Elk Creek and Big Elk Creek join about 8,000 ft. to the south and enter the Elk River, located two miles south of the property. The property and vicinity receive public water and sanitary sewer services from the town of Elkton.

Site History

The property was used for agricultural purposes prior to 1938. The single story building was constructed in 1938 and expanded in 1957. Between 1964 and 1969 property owners included the Cecil Whig Publishing Company and the Milwill Realty Corporation. The current property owners, RMR, JMR Corporation, purchased the property from the Milwill Realty Corporation in 1969 and began operations.

Between 1969 and 1989, the manufacturing facility produced fractional horsepower electrical motors. During this period, permits were retained for wastewater discharge, and controlled hazardous substances. The RMR, JMR Corporation is listed in Maryland Department of the Environment's (MDE) records as a large quantity generator of controlled hazardous waste from 1982 to 1989. Manufacturing operations at the facility generated waste oil, corrosives (sodium hydroxide, black oxide, ammonia), Xylol, degreaser fluid (1,1,1, trichloroethane), methylene chloride, waste paint, methanol, transformer oil containing polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), caustics (paint stripper, shaft cleaner, varnish stripper), degreaser still bottoms, and naphtha. In 1989, the RMR, JMR Corporation declared bankruptcy and boarded up the property.

Environmental Concerns

On July 27, 1994, a tornado struck the building and the damage prompted an inspection by the MDE's Emergency Response Division. Approximately 30 transformers, 130 drums and several above-ground storage tanks were in the vicinity of the building. The MDE requested and received assistance from the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region III to perform a removal action in late-1994 to early-1995. The action involved combining similar waste streams, triple-rinsing PCB transformers with kerosene, cleaning and disposing of the AST contents, industrial cleaning of a concrete floor, and the removal of five 55-gallon drums of lead-impacted soil. Upon completion, the building and surrounding property were secured.

In 1994, the Waste Management Administration conducted a preliminary assessment of the property. Post-confirmatory sampling in areas of concern revealed low levels of PCBs and metals. Based on a toxicological evaluation, the Department concluded that the residual contamination did not pose a threat to human health and the environment. The property was designated by the U. S. EPA as "No Further Remedial Action Planned."

Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP) Status

On August 21, 2001, the Voluntary Cleanup/Brownfields Division received an application from Schwab LLC seeking a Certificate of Completion Determination as an inculpable person. Future use of the property is intended to be a warehouse facility. Following a review of the application, the Department requested the collection of additional soil and groundwater data. The Department is awaiting the submission of the requested information.

Facility Contact

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