

Texaco Inc.
Baltimore, MD

Site Location

The Texaco Inc. terminal is located at 3820 Fourth Avenue in Baltimore City. Two industrial companies, Amoco and BB Oil, border the property to the east and west, respectively. A residential area lies to the north of the site, and the southern border is defined by Curtis Bay. A seven foot cyclone fence defines the terrestrial borders.

The site (size unspecified) includes multiple tanks, a retention basin located adjacent to the bulkhead of Curtis Bay, a warehouse, and a single pier. All tank fields are connected to and drain into a separator, which empties onto the shoreline of the Patapsco River. Approximately half of the property lies within the 100-year flood plain. Eight to ten foot earthen or concrete walls protect all tank fields; however, the main separator and the separator retention basin have only about 18 inches of freeboard. The retention basin is especially susceptible as it is located immediately adjacent to the shoreline.

Site History

The Texaco Inc. (formerly known as Texaco USA - Baltimore Terminal) site was in operation from 1940-1962; in 1951, the Terminal Operating Group of Texaco took over the site from the Refinery Group. Common in the petroleum industry, Texaco would weather and bury sludges (leaded tank bottoms) removed from tanks during cleaning operations. No records as to quantity of material, location, or frequency of burial were kept. No records on tank field maintenance, demolition or reconstruction were kept.

Environmental Investigations

A Preliminary Assessment (PA) of the Texaco site was completed in August 1984 by the Maryland Waste Management Administration (WAS). The PA states that it was assumed the leaded tank bottoms were buried in bermed areas, which approximates 2-3 acres. Based on visual inspection, no evidence of contamination was found pertaining to soil, runoff, spills, air emissions, erosion, ponding, or charred areas.

The PA recommended that the site be considered a low priority site for a future Site Investigation (SI) to determine what wastes remain on site.

Current Status

Based on the 1984 PA, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency assigned the Texaco Inc. site No Further Remedial Action Planned (NFRAP) status in December 1993. The State Superfund Division will address future investigations or remediation.

Reference

A Preliminary Assessment of Texaco, Inc. - Baltimore Terminal, Baltimore, Maryland, prepared by the Maryland Waste Management Administration for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, August 1984.