



Facts About...

Old Fairfield Properties
(Voluntary Cleanup Program Site)

Site Location

The 23.38-acre Old Fairfield area consists of properties located in an area bounded by Chesapeake Ave, Carbon Ave, Sun St. and Weedon Street in a former residential area. The site is surrounded by various active industrial properties and petroleum storage facilities in the Fairfield section of South Baltimore.

Site History

The area includes 172 parcels that are currently owned by various private owners and Baltimore City. The properties were previously used as residences, but are now a combination of vacant lots and scrapyards.

Environmental Investigations and Actions

Several sampling events have been conducted in the area, but no investigation has included the entire area. In 1997, the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) completed two Brownfields Assessments on City-owned properties that identified elevated levels of inorganics, petroleum-related semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs) and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in the surface soils. In 2002, an environmental investigation conducted by a private consultant on a number of properties identified several hot spots of soil contamination by petroleum-related hydrocarbons and pesticides. In 1999, an investigation of the former SDM Diesel property identified elevated levels of diesel range organics (DRO) in groundwater.

In November 2004, a Phase I environmental site assessment of the properties confirmed the presence of several aboveground storage tanks, solid waste debris including removed underground storage tanks, pools of unknown liquid, 55-gallon drums of unknown content, staining and stressed vegetation across the properties.

In March 2007 a Phase II environmental site assessment of the properties included the collection of soil and groundwater samples that identified the presence of arsenic, lead and mercury, PCBs, and petroleum related compounds in the soil at the property and the presence of lead and petroleum related compounds in the groundwater beneath the property.

Current Status

On June 26, 2003, the Baltimore Development Corporation submitted an application for participation in the Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP) seeking a Certificate of Completion for future industrial use for the properties. On July 27, 2005, the VCP issued an inculpable person status letter to the Baltimore Development Corporation for the properties. The VCP accepted the application for participation in the VCP on July 9, 2007 and is awaiting submittal of a Response Action Plan.

Contact

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

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