

<u>Prince George's County</u>	
1965-1988	A dry cleaning fluid distribution facility operated at the site.
12/1988-	The Department was notified of PCE contamination at the site.
2/1989-	A bulk storage aboveground storage tank used for PCE storage was drained, cleaned, and removed from the property.
3/1989-	Groundwater samples were collected from four newly-installed monitoring wells on the property. PCE was detected at concentrations as high as 142,000 ug/l.
1989-1996	A number of soil, groundwater, and soil vapor investigations were performed at the site.
10/1998-	The property was accepted into the VCP.
5/1999-	Additional soil, groundwater, and surface water testing was performed at the site.
1/28/00-	A proposed response action plan was submitted to the Department for approval.

**W.P. BALLARD & COMPANY OF WASHINGTON**  
**10722 Tucker Street**  
**Beltsville, Maryland**  
**(Voluntary Cleanup Program)**

**Site Description**

This 0.8-acre property, owned by W.P. Ballard & Company of Washington, is located in the Beltsville Industrial Center. From 1965 to October 1988, Ballard operated a dry cleaning distribution facility at the property. During this period, large quantities of tetrachloroethene (PCE) were routinely handled and stored on the property. In 1995, Ballard leased the property to Columbia Architectural Products, Inc., a manufacturer of aluminum building facades.

**Environmental Concerns**

While Ballard occupied the property, tetrachloroethene was brought to the facility by rail car or truck and temporarily stored in a bulk-storage tank located on the western portion of the property. Tetrachloroethene was transferred from the storage tank into tanker trucks, drums, and smaller containers for distribution. Leakage from the bulk storage tank and periodic spills during transfer operations has contaminated on-site soil and groundwater with tetrachloroethene. In addition, free phase tetrachloroethene has been observed in at least one on-site monitoring well. Contaminated groundwater migrating southeast from the property has entered Indian Creek, a tributary to the Anacostia River, located approximately 1,700 feet away.

Environmental concerns at the property first came to MDE's attention in December 1988, when an excavating company notified the Department's Hazardous Waste Program that the on-site bulk-storage tank had leaked tetrachloroethene onto the (unpaved) ground. Shallow soil samples collected from this area in November 1988 indicated tetrachloroethene concentrations as high as 720,000 parts per million. In February 1989, the bulk storage tank was emptied of residual tetrachloroethene, washed, dismantled, and removed from the site. In March 1989, shallow groundwater samples collected from four newly-installed monitoring wells on the site revealed tetrachloroethene concentrations as high as 142,000 parts per billion.

Between 1989 and 1992, Ballard conducted additional investigations to determine the source and extent of site contamination and develop a site remediation strategy. A soil vapor survey was performed, on-site and off-site monitoring wells were installed and sampled, and a soil-vapor extraction pilot test was conducted. Several drafts of a remedial design plan were submitted to the Department during this period; however, none was approved.

An estimated 2,500 people are served by public and residential wells within three miles of the property. The nearest public supply well is 363 feet deep and is located approximately 1.5 miles southeast of the Ballard property and serves the Beltsville National Agricultural Research Center. The nearest residential well is reportedly located approximately 0.4 mile south of the property.

### **Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP) Status**

On October 23, 1998, the Ballard property was accepted into the VCP with responsible person status. In May/June 1999, at the request of the Department, the participant collected additional soil and groundwater samples from the site and additional surface water samples from Indian Creek. The results of these samples were used in the design of the response action plan for the property.

On January 26, 2000, the Department received a proposed response action plan for the property. At the request of an occupant of an adjoining property, a public informational meeting was held on April 17, 2000 to present the proposed response action plan to the public. The Department received comments on the proposed response action plan from the public for thirty days after the public meeting. The Department issued comments on the proposed response action plan to the participant on July 6, 2000 and is awaiting a response from the participant.

### **Site Contact**

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