Maryland Department of the Environment

FACTS ABOUT:

BEAVERDAM CREEK PCB STUDY

3133 PENNSY DRIVE SITE

Site Location

The 3133 Pennsy Drive Site (3133) is situated in a historically commercial/industrial area of Landover, Prince George's County, Maryland. The site is located along Pennsy Drive within the Beaverdam Creek drainage near the upper Metro parking lot crossing of Beaverdam Creek. The elevations range from 40 feet above mean sea level (AMSL) to 70 feet AMSL. The Pennsy Drive study area consists of several parcels owned by a number of entities. The primary focus of ownership is John Stone and the Jack Stone Sign Company; historic owners of a majority of the study area acreage. The geographic coordinates at the center of the 3133 site are latitude 038° 55.962' north and longitude 076° 53.278' west. Maryland Grid coordinates for the site are 400,150 north and 831,800 east.

Site History

Various environmental investigations have indicated levels of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in the soils and sediments in the vicinity of Beaverdam Creek. Based on the potential for adverse effects to the human food chain and sensitive environments, MDE recommended in December 2004 that further investigation of surface water be conducted.

Environmental Investigation and Action

In November 1982 inspectors from the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Office of Environmental Programs, performed a designated hazardous substances assessment of the Jack Stone Electrical Company located at 3133 Pennsy Drive. The findings were that PCB transformers and PCB contaminated debris were being stored on the property in violation of Maryland Law. This resulted in a civil penalty being assessed against Jack Stone Electric Company.

On April 15, 2009 MDE conducted a detailed hazardous waste inspection of the Jack Stone Sign Company facility. MDE found numerous violations of both water and hazardous waste statutes. As a result on August 18, 2009, Maryland issued a Complaint and Order and Administrative Penalty to Jack Stone Sign Company. In response to the MDE August 2009 Order, Jack Stone Sign Company performed a responsible party removal action. Waste and soil contaminated with mercury were removed from a quarter acre parcel in the rear of the company's headquarters at 3131 Pennsy Drive. PCB contamination has been well documented in the Beaverdam Creek drainage area.

- In 1994, PCB levels in Beaverdam Creek were identified by EPA contractors. The source of the contamination was not determined.

- In 2005, an MDE investigation of the Anacostia River Basin found PCB levels between four and eleven times greater than the PCB threshold of 3.8 nanograms/gram.
- An April 2010 SI of Beaverdam Creek PCB concluded that the PCB and heavy metals contamination in the upper Beaverdam Creek was likely from a non-point source emanating from the Pennsy Drive/Ardwick Industrial Park area.

Jack Stone Sign operates with EPA Generator ID # MDD091336529.

The Pennsy Drive ESI attempted to find a terrestrial source of PCB contamination. Results of the analysis of area soil samples indicate that there is PCB contamination of the soils between 75th Avenue and Pennsy Drive centered on the south boundary end of the 3133 Pennsy Drive property.

Current Status

During the September 2011 Beaverdam Creek PCB Site Assessment MDE found that the excavation from this action remained as an open water filled pit approximately thirty meters square.

A toxicological assessment performed for the 3133 Pennsy Drive Site found that child visitors and construction workers were at risk from the incidental ingestion of surface and subsurface soils and groundwater. The assessment also found that there was a carcinogenic risk to the child visitor, youth worker and adult worker from the ingestion of surface soil and groundwater.

Laboratory results indicate that there is or was a possible source of PCB contamination in the vicinity of 3133 Pennsy Drive. PCBs were identified in site samples but all site samples were below the non-residential clean-up standard for Aroclor.

Sediment samples continue to document PCB contamination upstream of the 3133 Pennsy Drive area. This indicates that there may be other PCB sources in the area that have not yet been identified.