



Maryland Department of the
Environment

FACTS ABOUT: Bethesda Commerce Property (Voluntary Cleanup Program)

Site Location

The Bethesda Commerce property is located at 7535 Old Georgetown Road in Bethesda, Montgomery County, Maryland. This 0.322-acre property is situated in a commercial-residential area that is bounded directly west and south by Old Georgetown Road, office buildings and other commercial properties back the property to the east and by Commerce Lane to the north. Surface water flows into the local storm-water management system. Coquelin Run is located 2,000 feet to the southeast. Public water and sewer service is supplied to the property and the area by the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission.

Site History

The property currently consists of a stand-alone bank (United Bank), located on a triangular-shaped parcel, which was constructed in 1980. Prior to 1980, the property was a gas station, which had been located on the property since the late 1950s. The current property owner is Grandbank who acquired the property from 7535 Old Georgetown Road LLC in March of 1999. Loyola Federal Savings and Loan Association, who built the current bank building, sold the property in 1996.

Environmental Investigations

The 2013 Phase I environmental site assessment indicates two recognized environmental conditions for the property: the former use of the property for a gas station and the use of an adjacent property as a dry cleaner; both properties had underground storage tanks located on the properties, which have been removed. A subsequent Phase II environmental site investigation in 2013 identified low-levels of petroleum compounds in the soils at the property.

Current Status

On August 14, 2013, Bethesda Commerce LLC submitted an application to the Voluntary Cleanup Program as an inculpable person seeking a Certificate of Completion for Tier 1B (Residential Restricted) future use of the property.



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