

Chevron Former Operating Yard (Voluntary Cleanup Program)

What You Need to Know

Site Location

This active 23.98-acre property, located at 1955 and 1950 Chesapeake Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland, is in the industrialized Fairfield District of Baltimore City. Petroleum refining related businesses and terminal activities for staging imported vehicles surround the property. Storm water runoff from the property flows towards the storm water system that discharges to the Patapsco River, located east of the property. Groundwater beneath the property also flows towards the Patapsco River. The property and vicinity are served by municipal water and sewer systems.

Site History

The property was undeveloped until approximately 1902. A petroleum refinery owned and operated by Prudential Oil, followed by Continental Oil Company (Conoco) was located on the southern part of the property from 1912 to 1946. American Bitumuls Company used the southern part of the property for asphalt production and petroleum refining operations until 1957 when Chevron took ownership of the property and continued the asphalt production and petroleum refining operations. A fertilizer plant was located on the northern part of the property until 1973, when Chevron bought this part of the property from Royster Company to expand its operations. In 1983, Chevron suspended all crude oil refining operations but continued to use the western part of the property as an asphalt terminal. A number of operating office buildings, in-use and formerly used aboveground storage tanks (ASTs) and associated pipe racks, and an asphalt truck loading rack are located on the western part of the property. Asphalt cement products are received from a barge or ship, stored in four ASTs, and are loaded to customers' trucks via the loading racks. The eastern part of the property is paved and leased for staging of imported vehicles.

Environmental Investigation and Actions

During numerous environmental site investigations between 1983 and 2008 at the entire Chevron facility (including the separated West Yard and Excess East Yard properties located west and south of the Operating Yard), contamination was detected in soil and groundwater above MDE's cleanup standards at the property. In 1988, soil impacted by a benzene release from an aboveground pipeline in the southern part of the property was remediated on-site.

Chevron completed a Phase I and Phase II Environmental Site Assessment in March 2009 for the Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP) application. The principal contaminants identified in soil and/or groundwater were volatile organic compounds, semi-volatile organic compounds, total petroleum hydrocarbons, polychlorinated biphenyls, and metals. Light non-aqueous phase liquids (LNAPLs) are present in the groundwater at the southern boundary of the property.

Current Status

In March 2009, the Chevron Environmental Management Company submitted a VCP application for the property seeking a Certificate of Completion as a responsible person. A



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Phase I and Phase II Environmental Site Assessment report was submitted with the VCP application. MDE issued comments on the VCP application in April 2009. The property was accepted into the VCP in April 2010 with the requirement that a response action plan (RAP) be developed. In January 2012, Targa Terminals LLC, submitted a 2nd VCP application package seeking a Certificate of Completion as an inculpable party. MDE accepted the Targa Terminals LLC application and confirmed the inculpable person status of the 2nd applicant. In 2019, Targa Terminal LLC was replaced by Pike Baltimore Terminals, LLC.

The proposed RAP was submitted to the VCP in July 2013 by Chevron. The RAP proposes soil excavation, installation of a remediation cap, soil vapor extraction, in-situ stabilization, and groundwater treatment. Response action at Area 1 was completed in October 2016. Response action at Area 2 started in March 2019. Additional data must be collected to develop the final remedial design at additional areas and a wharf area. The CHS Enforcement Program oversees the off-site investigation activities. Future use for the property will continue as industrial.

The adjacent Chevron West Yard and Excess East Yard properties were accepted into the VCP in 2003 and 2006, respectively. The Certification of Completion of remedial action was issued for Chevron Excess East Yard property in August 2013 and for Chevron West Yard Chesapeake property in April 2017.