Alliant Techsystems (Honeywell)  
401 Defense Highway  
Annapolis, Maryland

Site Location

This 36.3-acre site, is located off of Maryland Route 450 (Defense Highway) in Annapolis. The developed portion of the site consists of a large one-story building that is used for office and manufacturing purposes; an asphalt paved parking lot; approximately three office trailers; and, a small building that houses the groundwater extraction/treatment system. The undeveloped portion of the site is steeply sloping wooded land.

The site is bordered by Maryland Route 50 to the south, an undeveloped area and residential community to the west, the City of Annapolis Landfill to the north, and the Annapolis water supply wells to the east. The international grid coordinates for the site are 38° 59′ 15″ north latitude and 76° 34′ 30″ west longitude.

Site History

From 1961 to 1966, Electro-International, Inc. (Electro-International) owned the site and operated a manufacturing facility that discharged chrome plating solutions, degreasing solvents, and process water into a septic tank/dry well system. Honeywell, Inc. (Honeywell) became a tenant on the site in 1966, and continued operating the facility using the same waste practices that were established by Electro-International. In 1977, Honeywell discontinued the practice of discharging chromic acid solutions into the drywells as well as ceasing discharges of the rinsewater containing chrome, but continued to discharge rinse waters containing trichloroethylene (TCE) into the drywells.

The property was deeded to Honeywell in 1981. All discharges of the remaining process waste streams into the septic tank/dry well system ceased in 1985. In 1990, Alliant Techsystems (Alliant) acquired the site after Honeywell spun off its defense and marine systems business.

Environmental Investigations

The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) completed a Preliminary Assessment of the site in March 1986, and a screening site investigation in June 1990. The data from these investigations revealed heavy contamination in the groundwater and adjacent surface waters by volatile organic compounds, most notably TCE.

In 1993, Alliant completed closure of the dry wells in accordance with the Dry Well Closure and Post-Closure Plan. Later the same year, with Department oversight, Alliant commenced operation of the approved groundwater extraction/treatment system. In May 1995,
the Department and Alliant entered into a Consent Order which outlined the operation and maintenance of the groundwater extraction/treatment system and the aquifer remediation goals.

In February 1998, Alliant sold the site to The Windermere Group, but retained responsibility for pre-existing environmental conditions including the financial and management responsibilities for the groundwater extraction/treatment system. Alliant submitted an Endangerment Assessment to the Department in May 1999 for the purpose of applying for a waiver of “Technical Impracticability” with respect to meeting the aquifer remediation goals contained in the Consent Order.

**Current Status**

The Department met with representatives of Alliant in June 2000 to discuss the Endangerment Assessment as well as continued operation of the groundwater extraction/treatment system. The Department has requested that Alliant provide additional information on the conditions of the property including, the interconnectedness of the upper and lower aquifers and a summary of results from individual wells. Alliant continues to operate the groundwater extraction/treatment system and submit reports to the Department on the quarterly monitoring events.

**Site Contact**

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