Site Description

The 12.7-acre property is located in a mixed commercial and residential area within the East Baltimore enterprise zone. The former meat packing facility contained various single- and multi-story buildings, including the main plant, a warehouse, a maintenance building, a fat rendering plant, and livestock pens.

Site History

The property was used as a meat packing facility from 1924, when the plant opened, until 1992, when the plant closed. During the late 1980s and early 1990s, a portion of the maintenance building on the Esskay property was leased to a body repair and truck painting operation. Operations at the plant ceased in 1992 due to concerns about the structural integrity of the main building. The property remained inactive after the plant closed, except for cleanup and removal activities, including removal of all underground and aboveground storage tanks.

Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP) Status

On January 28, 1999, Essex Community College Foundation submitted an application for the former Esskay Plant, seeking a no further requirements determination as an inculpable person. On April 15, 1999, the Department approved the applicant’s status as an inculpable person and issued a No Further Requirements Determination on condition that the property be used only for industrial or commercial purposes in the future and no use of the groundwater beneath the property for any purposes.

A second application for the property was submitted on December 1, 1999 by the Maryland Economic Development Corporation (MEDCO) seeking inculpable person status. MEDCO’s application was approved on December 7, 1999 with inculpable person status.

After receipt of the No Further Requirements Determination, all preexisting buildings and site structures were razed. An active industrial/manufacturing facility currently operates at the property.

Site Contact

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