



Greenspring Nike Launch and Control

What You Need to Know

Site Location

The former Greenspring Nike site is located northwest of Timonium, Baltimore County, Maryland. The former Control site is located North of Breed Road and northwest of Greenspring Avenue. The former Launch site is located southeast of the former control site, northeast of the intersection of Lindeman Lane and Ridge Road.

The Greenspring Launch and Control Site is a former Nike anti-ballistic missile defense battery. The Project Nike missile defense system was developed during the cold war as a ballistic missile defense system. The batteries were deployed around the U.S. Each battery was comprised of a radar control site and a missile firing site, usually separated by about one mile.

The former control site is now used as an Army Reserve facility. The former launch site has been developed into single-family housing.

Site History

This site was part of the Baltimore Defense Area System, which was operated between 1955 and 1964. The magazines were backfilled with clean soil and all buildings were demolished and removed from the site when the Army closed this facility.

Environmental Investigations and Actions

In 1984, Maryland detected volatile organic compound (VOC) contamination in two home wells within a one-mile radius of the site. This resulted in the delay of a residential construction project at the site. Later the same year, six monitoring wells were installed in the vicinity of the site. These wells were sampled twice in the spring of 1984 and based on the lack of contamination found, the continuation of the construction project was approved. These six wells were again sampled in 1985 and no contaminants were detected.

The Baltimore County Health Department sampled several home wells within a one-mile radius of the site between spring 1984 and spring 1985. Of the wells sampled, 22 showed some contamination by VOCs. In response to these positive detections, the Army conducted an investigation taking soil samples and installing 4 additional wells. The study concluded that the Greenspring Launch and Control Site was not the source of contamination.

Two 4,000-gallon underground storage tanks (UST) were removed from the site in 1986. The soil under the tanks was sampled and no significant levels of contamination were found. In 1987, Maryland conducted a Preliminary Assessment of the site.

In January and February 1989, groundwater, soil and home well water samples were collected. This investigation concluded that there was no evidence of significant impact in the vicinity of the Greenspring Launch and Control Site.



Maryland
Department of
the Environment

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Current Status/Planned or Potential Future Action

There are no further actions planned for this site.