

**MD-75
Cecil County**

**ROUTE 7
Elkton, Maryland**

1900s	Site was clay quarry.
1956	New Jersey Fireworks Company purchased the property.
1980	State sampled site and surrounding area.
1980	<i>Preliminary Assessment Form</i> completed.
1983-1986	State Highway Administration disposed of fill dirt from road construction.
1986	<i>Site Inspection</i> report completed.
1986	Department of Health and Mental Hygiene recommended follow-up sampling.
1992	MDE recommended NFRAP under CERCLA at this time.

Site Location

The Route 7 Dump site is located along Maryland Route 7 in Cecil County, Maryland, approximately 2.4 miles west of Elkton and 2.5 miles east of the town of North East. The site size is about 2 acres. The site is located at the confluence of Mill Creek and one of its unnamed tributaries to the south and east, respectively.

The site is situated in the Atlantic Coastal Plain Physiographic Province, just east of the Fall Line. The area surrounding the site consists of rural wooded lots. A number of quarrying operations and three Class C fireworks companies were once located within a 3-mile radius of the site.

Site History

In the early 1900s, the site was utilized as a clay quarry that supplied clay to a brick manufacturer. During the World War II period, by-products of munitions production, as well as scrap rubber from the Bayshore Rubber Plant, were disposed of on site.

In 1956, the New Jersey Fireworks Company purchased the property for use as a disposal area for class C fireworks. The dump site was not permitted. The disposal area consisted of a burn pad and a water-filled pit that was used to dispose of the ash material. By 1980, wastes were burned at the site, and the ash was transported to the county landfill.

Between 1983 and 1986, the State Highway Administration used the on-site pond to dispose of fill dirt from road construction. Most of the fill dirt consisted of clays.

Environmental Investigations

The State of Maryland investigated the site in 1980, at which time sample results indicated contamination of an on-site ponded area, but no evidence of off-site contamination.

In December 1983, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) conducted a Site Inspection that included collecting samples from on-site surface waters and an adjacent stream. Lead detected in upstream and downstream aqueous samples was determined to be unrelated to the site. Only butyl benzyl phthalate (15 micrograms per liter, ug/l) was detected in aqueous samples, and it was determined to pose no evident hazard. A high concentration of barium (19,300 ug/l) was detected in the on-site pond aqueous sample, but no barium was detected off site.

In June 1992, the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) transmitted a Level I Hazardous Ranking System score to EPA, and reported that New Jersey Fireworks Company still owned the site, and that the State Highway Administration disposed of fill dirt from road construction in the on-site pond from 1983 to 1986. MDE recommended considering the site for No Further Remedial Action Planned (NFRAP) under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA).

In September 1992, MDE transmitted to EPA a revised *Level I Site Investigation Prioritization* (SIP) for the site and recommended NFRAP under CERCLA at this time.

Current Status

This site is on the State Master List that identifies potential hazardous waste sites in Maryland. The Master List includes sites currently identified by the EPA's Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Information System. EPA has given the site a designation of NFRAP. The designation of NFRAP by EPA does not mean that MDE has reached the same conclusion concerning

further investigation at the site. The information contained in the fact sheet presents a summary of past investigations and site conditions currently known to MDE.

Facility Contact

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