



Maryland
Department of
the Environment

FACTS ABOUT: NORTHPOINT GOVERNMENT FACILITY

ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATION NORTHPOINT GOVERNMENT FACILITY 1747 MERRITT BOULEVARD / 7701 WISE AVENUE BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND MDE CASE NO. 2016-0467-BA (OPEN)

SITE LOCATION

The Maryland Department of the Environment's (the Department) Oil Control Program is evaluating the impacts of a heating oil release at the Baltimore County North Point Government Center located at 1747 Merritt Boulevard / 7701 Wise Avenue in Baltimore County. The facility was supported by two 10,000-gallon steel underground storage tanks (USTs) and steel piping that were installed in 1970 to supply fuel oil to the facility. The site is surrounded by a mixed use commercial and residential area and is served by public water and sewer.

SITE HISTORY

In February 2016, the Department received a report of No. 2 fuel oil observed in a tributary to Lynch Cove Run by a citizen. The investigation of the fuel oil in the tributary was identified to originate from the two 10,000-gallon heating oil USTs located at the North Point Government Center. Precision testing of the tanks and piping could not produce passing results, indicating that the USTs and/or the piping could not be confirmed to be tight. The UST system was taken out of service in February 2016.

In March 2016, the USTs and piping were removed and perforations in the USTs and piping were observed. It was determined that the release originated from the UST system piping and entered the storm drain system through an old terra cotta pipe located beneath the UST system piping. Approximately 51 tons of soil was excavated from the vicinity of the product piping. Post-excavation confirmatory soil samples were all below the Department's regulatory levels with the exception of samples collected below the piping, which had exceedances of total petroleum hydrocarbons in the diesel range and gasoline range (TPH-DRO and TPH-GRO). TPH-DRO concentrations ranged from 1,600 to 13,000 parts per million (ppm); which exceed the 620 ppm Department cleanup standard. TPH-GRO concentrations ranged from 1,400 to 4,800 ppm, which exceed the 620 ppm Department cleanup standard.

In response to the release, the Department required Baltimore County to perform site assessment activities to delineate the extent of contamination observed in the area of the product piping, conduct inspections of the storm drain manways and outfall, maintain booms at the outfall as needed, conduct an inspection of the stream, and collect water samples from the storm drain manway near the point of release and the storm drain outfall.



ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATIONS AND ACTIONS

In August 2016, Baltimore County conducted a site assessment to delineate the extent of petroleum impacts surrounding the former heating oil USTs. The results indicated that liquid phase hydrocarbons (LPH) were present on groundwater in the vicinity of the former product piping.

In September 2016, a stream inspection performed by Baltimore County representatives identified two areas where potential hydrocarbon sheens were observed. In October 2016, Department personnel conducted a follow-up stream inspection with Baltimore County representatives to evaluate the stream and the two areas where the potential hydrocarbon sheens were reported. No evidence of petroleum impacts (sheens or odors) were observed during the follow-up inspection.

Inspection of the storm drain manways did not document any petroleum impacts with the exception of the storm drain manway located nearest to the former heating oil UST system. Water sampling results from that storm drain manway showed a TPH-DRO concentration of 0.169 ppm. No other petroleum related constituents were detected. The surface water sample collected from the storm drain outfall (location where fuel was originally observed in February 2016) was non-detect for all petroleum constituents.

CURRENT STATUS

Based on the August 2016 site assessment results that identified LPH at the former piping area adjacent to the building and residual impacts to the storm drain manway at the former product piping area, the Department required Baltimore County to submit a work plan for additional assessment activities. The required assessment will include the installation of monitoring wells to further delineate the limits of the LPH, inspection of all building sumps for petroleum impacts, and cleaning of the impacted storm drain manway adjacent to the former product piping. Following completion of the additional assessment activities, the Department will evaluate the site data and issue additional directives, if warranted.

FUTURE UPDATES

- Postings available on www.mde.maryland.gov
- File available at the Department's headquarters in Baltimore.

CONTACTS

- Oil Control Program: (410) 537-3442 or (800) 633-6101 x3442
- Baltimore County Health Department: 410-887-2243

DISCLAIMER

The intent of this fact sheet is to provide the reader a summary of site events as they are contained within documents available to the Department. To fully understand the site and surrounding environmental conditions, the Department recommends that the reader review the case file, which can be requested through the Public Information Act. The inclusion of a person or company's name within this fact sheet is for informational purposes only and should not be considered a conclusion by the Department on liability, involvement in a wrongful act, or contribution to environmental damage.