August 9, 2016

CERTIFIED MAIL

RE: INFORMATIONAL NOTIFICATION LETTER
Case No. 2017-0053-CE
Fair Hill Shell
4428 Telegraph Road, Elkton
Cecil County, Maryland
Facility I.D. No. 13160

Dear Resident or Property Owner:

This letter is provided in compliance with Section 4-411.2 of the Environment Article, Annotated Code of Maryland. The intent of this letter is to notify you that a petroleum-related compound has been detected in a groundwater monitoring well sample at the above-referenced property at a concentration exceeding the statutory notification level. As a property owner within 0.5-mile of the subject property (see enclosed map), notification is required to be submitted to you to provide information about the detection at the referenced service station.

The Maryland Department of the Environment’s (the Department) Oil Control Program has opened a new groundwater investigation case for the Fair Hill Shell. On July 27, 2016, the Department received notification that a dissolved phase petroleum impact was detected in a water sample collected from monitoring well MW-2 on May 19, 2016. The petroleum-related compound benzene was detected at a concentration of 19.1 parts per billion (ppb), which exceeds the respective notification standard of 5 ppb. The Department required the collection of a confirmation sample from MW-2 on July 28, 2016. The other two monitoring wells and the drinking water supply well at the site were also sampled on May 19, 2016. Sample results did not detect the presence of petroleum compounds above regulatory levels.

The Department has informed the Cecil County Health Department of this detection and of the open investigation. The Department is working with the Health Department to evaluate the risks associated with the detection to the community. At this time, there is no indication that the contamination has migrated beyond the study area. The Department does not believe there is an immediate health risk to the public in your community and will continue to monitor the situation until Elkton Fair Hill Services, LLC has properly investigated and mitigated the contamination.

If your property is served by an individual drinking water supply well, you may elect to have your well water tested by a private laboratory. Your decision should be based on the proximity of your well to the source of the contamination and whether or not you have noticed any change in the taste or odor of your well water. For your convenience, enclosed is a list of private laboratories that can assist you should you decide to have your well water tested privately. The recommended test to request is U.S. EPA Method 524.2 for full-suite volatile organic compounds (VOCs), including fuel oxygenates and naphthalene. Samples should be collected by a certified sampler and prior to the water passing through any treatment device.
A project Fact Sheet has been prepared to provide information regarding the site (enclosed). The Fact Sheet will be updated periodically as the case progresses. The Fact Sheet and other documents related to the investigation will be posted to the Oil Control Program’s Remediation Sites internet page: http://bit.ly/MDEOCPRemediationSites.

If you have any questions, please contact the case manager, Ms. Susan Bull, Eastern Region Section Head, at 410-537-3499 (email: susan.bull@maryland.gov).

Sincerely,

Christopher H. Ralston, Administrator
Oil Control Program

JD/nln

Enclosures: Map
Fact Sheet
Testing Laboratory List

cc: Mr. John Wear (Elkton Fair Hill Services, LLC)
Mr. Fred von Staden (Cecil County Health Dept.)
Mr. Andrew B. Miller
Ms. Hilary Miller
ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATION
FAIR HILL SHELL
4428 TELEGRAPH ROAD, ELKTON
CECIL COUNTY, MARYLAND
MDE CASE NO. 2017-0053CE (OPEN)

SITE LOCATION
The Maryland Department of the Environment’s (the Department) Oil Control Program received notification of elevated petroleum constituents in the shallow groundwater and is currently evaluating this notification for the Fair Hill Shell, located at 4428 Telegraph Road in Elkton. This location has supported gasoline retail activities since 2001 when two underground storage tank systems were installed: one 10,000-gallon diesel and one 20,000-gallon compartmentalized gasohol. The piping is comprised of double-walled flexible plastic piping. This site is equipped with Stage I and Stage II vapor recovery systems. Currently, three groundwater monitoring wells and a transient non-community drinking water supply well are located on site.

SITE HISTORY
In September 2009, the Department received the initial annual groundwater sampling results from the three monitoring wells installed pursuant to Code of Maryland Regulations (COMAR) 26.10.02.03-4. Sampling results for the monitoring wells and on-site supply well were below regulatory levels for petroleum constituents. As required, the wells have been sampled annually since that time and all results through 2015 were in compliance with regulatory standards.

ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATIONS AND ACTIONS
On July 27, 2016, the Department received notification of the detection of a dissolved phase petroleum-related constituent in an on-site monitoring well at a concentration exceeding the regulatory standard. Benzene was detected at a concentration of 19.1 parts per billion (ppb) during the May 2016 sampling event, which exceeds the regulatory standard of 5 ppb. The remaining two monitoring wells were sampled and the results were non-detect for petroleum constituents. Sampling results for the on-site supply well were below regulatory levels for all petroleum constituents.
CURRENT STATUS

Based on the July 2016 detection of benzene above the regulatory standard, the responsible party, Elkton Fair Hill Services LLC, will be directed to complete a half-mile well survey, perform periodic confirmation sampling of the monitoring well network, and continue annual sampling of the on-site supply well.

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
- Cecil County Health Department: 410-996-5550
- Elkton Fair Hill Services, LLC: (202) 391-5285

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.