Site Location

The Dundalk Marine Terminal Site (DMT) is located at 2700 Broening Highway in Dundalk on the Baltimore City/County line and adjacent to Patapsco River in a mixed industrial and residential area. The area is serviced by public water and sewer.

Site History

Approximately 2.5 million cubic yards of chromium ore processing residue (COPR) were deposited by AlliedSignal Inc. at DMT prior to the 1970s. As a result, chromium from COPR was being released to groundwater and to the Patapsco River via damaged storm drains. Six storm drains, 12th, 12.5th, 13th, 13.5th, 14th, and 15th Streets contributed to flux to the Patapsco River. The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), the Maryland Port Administration (MPA), and Honeywell International, Inc. (Honeywell) signed a Consent Decree (CD) in April 2006. The CD required MPA and Honeywell to submit plans to establish the extent of COPR, quantify releases to groundwater, surface water, and sediment, investigate the causes of COPR expansion, and propose remedial measures to MDE.

Under the CD, Honeywell and MPA performed extensive studies and investigations and prepared the Corrective Measures Alternative Analysis (CMAA) report identifying protective and cost effective remedial strategies to address COPR contamination. In July 2012, following a public information meeting on the proposed CMAA, MDE accepted the most effective remedial strategy that proposed the storm drain relining and the design and installation of a long-term monitoring and site maintenance plan to assure that discharges of contaminants of concern to the Patapsco River are positively reduced or eliminated.

Environmental Investigation and Actions

The investigation reports, the CMAA report, and updated storm drain rehabilitation schedule are posted on MDE’s website at: https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/LAND/HazardousWaste/Pages/hwpcleanupsites.aspx.

Current Status

Honeywell and MPA are implementing the storm drain relining project, monitoring groundwater and stormwater, maintaining the surface cover, and monitoring COPR fill. The relining of the storm drains is a key component of the CMAA.

Areas 1501 and 1602, a 21-acre area in the southern part of the Terminal, will get a new multimedia cap to reduce surface water infiltration. The multimedia cap is part of the enhanced isolation and containment system established in the CMAA. Construction will be done in three phases over two years (2021-2022) to minimize disruption to Port operations. In addition, the construction of a new strain relief trench (SRT) along the service road was
completed in 2020, and rehabilitation of the SRT along the 15th Street storm drain is planned for 2022.

Honeywell and MPA have rehabilitated the 12th, 12.5th, 13th, and 13.5th Street storm drains. The rehabilitation of the 14th and 15th Street storm drains will be complete in 2022. Once the relining project is completed in 2022, MDE requires a comprehensive groundwater monitoring plan. The Honeywell and the MPA will conduct quarterly groundwater sampling for three years to determine whether further review of the groundwater discharging from the site is needed and whether the overall containment is effective.