



Maryland Department of the
Environment

FACTS ABOUT: Brick Yard

Site Description:

The Brick Yard property is a site in the Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP). The property consists of 46 acres located at 7100 Muirkirk Road in Beltsville, Prince George's County, Maryland. Bordering the property to the south and east are residential developments and to the north is a memorial park and shopping center. The property is bordered to the west by an undeveloped land, beyond which are commercial businesses.

Groundwater flow beneath the property is to the southwest. The nearest surface water body is an unnamed tributary of Indian Creek, located approximately 4,000 feet south of the property. The site and vicinity are served by municipal water and sewer systems provided by the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission.

Site History:

Through various entities, brick manufacturing operations were performed on site from the 1900s to June 2001. The property was first under use by Washington Brick. In 1971, Maryland Brick purchased the property. Cherokee Maryland Properties Inc purchased the property in 1989 and General Shale Brick took over operations on site in 2001. In addition to the brick manufacturing operations, the property was also utilized as a soil recycling facility during the 1990s (all operations ceased in 1998) and a landscaping company in the early 2000s. The majority of the buildings located on the property were demolished in 2005, with the exception of the silo and administrative office building. Currently, the immediately adjacent parcels are under construction.

Environmental Investigations and Actions:

Multiple environmental investigations were conducted at the property starting in 2002. In summary, the environmental investigations noted the presence of aboveground storage tanks, underground storage tanks, PCB-containing transformers, and petroleum contaminated soil. Soil samples collected from the property reported concentrations of diesel range and organic range total petroleum hydrocarbons, volatile organic compounds, semi-volatile organic compounds, and priority pollutant metals. Groundwater samples collected from the property reported concentrations of total petroleum hydrocarbons, volatile organic compounds and priority pollutant metals.



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Current Status:

The Ryland Group, Inc. submitted a VCP application package for The Brick Yard property on December 1, 2010, seeking a Certificate of Completion as an inculpable person. Subsequent to the submittal of the VCP application package, The Ryland Group, Inc. submitted a request for expedited inculpable person status for the property. The Department granted expedited inculpable person status to The Ryland Group, Inc. for The Brick Yard property on June 1, 2010. On July 22, 2011, the Department accepted the property into the VCP and requested the development of a proposed response action plan (RAP) to address the potential risk associated with the soil and groundwater beneath the site.

The Ryland Group, Inc. submitted the proposed RAP for the property on October 31, 2011. A public informational meeting to discuss the proposed RAP was held on November 16, 2011 at 6:30pm at the Laurel Fire Department in Prince George's County, Maryland.. After receiving comments on the proposed RAP, a revised proposed RAP was submitted to the Department on May 1, 2012. The VCP approved the revised proposed RAP for the property on May 3, 2012. The approved revised RAP is currently being implemented at the property.



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