



The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
The Maryland Department of the Environment  
May 2020



# Project Fact Sheet

## Trade Point Atlantic (Sparrows Point) Baltimore, Maryland

### Background

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) are overseeing the investigation, remediation, and redevelopment of the Trade Point Atlantic (TPA) facility formerly called Sparrows Point Terminal (SPT). The work at the Facility is governed by a Settlement Agreement (SA) between EPA and SPT, pursuant to the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA), the Resource Conservation Recovery Act (RCRA) and a Consent Decree (CD) amongst EPA, MDE and prior owner Sparrows Point LLC (SPLLC), under RCRA and State authorities. SPT has also signed an Administrative Consent Order with MDE and has entered the entire property into the Voluntary Cleanup program. The SA was developed to govern TPA's assumption of the environmental investigation and remediation measures at the site while it redevelops the Facility. Meanwhile, prior redeveloper/owner SPLLC has assumed the remaining obligations under the CD and the offshore area has been deferred from EPA's RCRA Corrective Action Program to the CERCLA Program. The SA does not require SPT to perform any offshore work.

### Facility Update

This Fact Sheet provides information on RCRA site investigation status and activities performed from April -September 2018, and activities planned for the remainder of 2018.

### 1. Phase II Work Plans

The Agencies have received Phase II Work Plans with proposed soil, groundwater and soil gas sampling points based on the location of potential releases from historical processes conducted at that parcel and sufficient additional sampling locations to provide coverage of the entire parcel. The Agencies have approved or are currently reviewing these work plans. Since the Agency's October 2019 public meeting, work plans for the following areas have been reviewed:

#### Area A Parcels

- A-18

#### Area B Parcels

- B-9 (Former Penwood Power Plant)
- B-11 (Coke Oven Area)
- B-20 (Humphries Wastewater Treatment Plant)
- B-24

In addition to the Phase II Work Plans, the Agencies review and approve targeted soil and groundwater sampling plans if results from the initial investigations warrant further work. These plans are submitted as necessary and vary in scope and focus (e.g., delineation of non-aqueous phase liquids (NAPLs) or elevated metals).

### 2. Phase II Investigation Reports

Upon approval of the Phase II Work Plan, field work can begin at the Parcel. Once the field work is completed and the data is validated, an Investigation Report summarizing the sample results is submitted for the Agencies for review. The following new Phase II Reports have been submitted to the Agencies for review:

### Contact and Resource Information

Please direct any questions about this project to either:

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Additional information can be found at:

[EPA RCRA Program - Trade Point Atlantic](#)

[EPA Removal Program - Trade Point Atlantic](#)

[MDE Hazardous Site Information-TPA](#)

[MDE Voluntary Cleanup Program- TPA](#)

**Area A Parcels**

- A-2 (Revision)
- A-4 (Revision)
- A-5, A-9, Grey’s Railyard

**Area B Parcels**

- B-21
- B-23

**3. Response and Development Work Plans**

This process ensures that redevelopment occurs in a way that protects human health and the environment. The Agencies have approved or are currently reviewing these work plans, submitted after the October 2019 public meeting:

**Area A Parcel**

- A3-1 Addendum
- A8-1 Addendum (Gotham Greens)
- A8-2
- A10-1

**Area B Parcels**

- B1-1 Addendum (Volkswagen)
- B2-1 Addendums (BGE Substation)
- B5-1 Addendum (A-Yard)
- B6-2 Addendum (Royal Farms area)

**4. Other Updates**

**I. Tin Mill Canal**

Maintenance cleanup of the Tin Mill Canal is currently ongoing at the Facility. The cleanup effort generally includes removal and dewatering of sediment, cleaning of outfalls, disposal of non-hazardous sediments at Grey’s Landfill, and placement of a cap. Since the April 2018 public meeting, capping of Sections #3 and #4 of the Canal have been completed.



**II. Parcel B13 – Naphthalene Contamination (Odor Concerns)**

As reported during the most recent public meeting held by the Agencies in October 2019, MDE began receiving complaints of mothball-like odors emanating from the Sparrows Point Site in May 2019. It was determined that an area of naphthalene contamination was exposed during slag reclamation activities occurring within Parcel B13, located directly south of the Penwood Canal and west of Old Road Bay. Slag processing was immediately halted in the naphthalene contaminated area and clay material was used to cover an exposed cut face that exhibited significant odors. To mitigate remaining odors emanating from recently processed slag piles, MDE approved and observed the placement of Posi-Shell, an environmental coating, to cover the piles until a plan could be developed to handle the material while minimizing the risk of mobilizing naphthalene vapors. The Agencies are currently working with TPA to identify the most effective method for handling the processed slag piles. Additional soil delineation has recently been approved by the Agencies to determine the extent and severity of naphthalene contamination that remains in place within the historic slag stockpile area, south of the temporarily capped cut face. The Agencies have committed to and will be notifying the public when a plan has been approved to manage both the processed slag piles and remaining unprocessed slag material located within Parcel B13. This notification will be provided to neighboring community associations prior to any work being conducted in these areas.

**III. Rod & Wire Mill Interim Measure**

The objectives of the Interim Measure (IM) at the Road & Wire Mill (RWM) are to reduce dissolved concentrations of metals (cadmium and zinc) in the groundwater and eliminate the potential for future unacceptable groundwater discharges to surface water. The IM approach for addressing the elevated metals in groundwater at RWM is through installation of remediation trenches which helps precipitate the dissolved metals out of groundwater by raising the groundwater pH levels. Supplemental investigations were conducted in the RWM area both onsite and offshore, in order to expand Agency understanding of groundwater conditions on the parcel and evaluate the effectiveness of the selected IM. This work was performed in early 2019. The Agencies are currently reviewing.

**IV. Coke Oven Area (COA) Interim Measure**

The IMs at the Coke Oven currently in operation include the following systems located within five distinct smaller areas; Air Sparge/Soil Vapor Extraction, Groundwater Pump and Treat, Dual Phase Extraction, Dense Non-Aqueous Phase Liquid (DNAPL) Recovery, and Multi-Phase Extraction of Light Non-Aqueous Phase Liquid (LNAPL). Agencies continues to evaluate the effectiveness of the IM systems at the Coke Oven. As part of this evaluation, supplemental investigations were conducted in the COA both onsite and offshore. This work was performed in early 2019. The Agencies are currently reviewing the 2019 COA IM Progress Report and COA IM Supplemental Investigation Report (Rev. 1).

**V. Sitewide Groundwater Investigation**

The goals and objectives of the site-wide ground water study at the Facility are: (a); determine the extent of groundwater contamination at the Facility (b); propose a conceptual site model for groundwater flow and contaminant migration at the Facility (c); Characterization of groundwater usage, and (d); selection of Corrective Action Objectives for appropriate groundwater usage. These investigations are currently ongoing at the site.

**VI. Offshore**

The EPA Superfund Division is continuing to evaluate the best approach for taking necessary action (s) to protect human health and the environment in the Offshore area.

**VII. Statement of Basis (EPA)**

EPA issued a Statement of Basis (SB), which proposed remedies for soils at Parcels A2, A3, B3, B4, and B15. A public notice to announce the SB was published in the Dundalk Eagle on April 2, 2020. The public comment period for this SB ends May 2, 2020. All persons who submit relevant written comments or request notice of EPA’s final determination will be directly contacted. The SB does not include a proposed final remedy for groundwater.

EPA anticipates issuing a SB that proposes remedies for soils at Parcels B2-1, B2-2, B1-2, B5-1, B6-1, and B6-2, in the 2nd quarter of 2020. A Public Notice will be published for comment on the SB.

### Sparrows Point Investigation Status 5/1/2020

**Investigation\_Status**

- Investigation Areas
- Final Cleanup Approved
- Investigation Completed
- Work Plan Approved
- Work Plan Submitted

