



Maryland Department
of the Environment

FACTS ABOUT: FORMER BELKO CORP.

ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATION FORMER BELKO CORPORATION 11931 JERICHO ROAD, KINGSVILLE BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND MDE CASE NO. 1991-0916-BA (OPEN)

SITE LOCATION

The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), Oil Control Program (OCP), is evaluating the impact of petroleum constituents at the Belko property. The Belko site comprises approximately 3 acres of land located on the banks of the Little Gunpowder Falls River. The site is geologically underlain by metamorphic and igneous Precambrian aged bedrock. Atop the bedrock is several feet of fill material (dirt, sand, rubber shards, and gravel). Groundwater flow is to the northeast, towards the Little Gunpowder River. The site is a commercial property surrounded by residential properties.

SITE HISTORY

The Belko Corporation (Belko) has owned and operated this approximately 56,000-sq. ft. rubber manufacturing plant since the 1960s. In June 2001, the Axil Corporation (Axil) acquired the site and plant operations were shut down. Historically, two 10,000-gallon #4 fuel oil aboveground storage tanks (ASTs) and one 10,000-gallon waste oil AST were located on-site. Multiple hydraulic oil ASTs of various sizes also operated on-site. In addition, a system of open trenches, open pits, piping, pumps, and ASTs were used to transport and circulate hydraulic oil through the building to manufacturing equipment.

ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATIONS AND ACTIONS

In 1986, oil seeps were observed along the banks of the Little Gunpowder River, down-gradient of the facility. Prior to this discovery, an AST had released approximately 200 gallons of #4 oil and several releases of hydraulic oil occurred during plant production activities. Subsequently, four monitoring wells were installed in 1991 and liquid phase hydrocarbons (LPH) were observed in two of these wells. Five additional monitoring wells were installed in September 2009. Historic LPH recovery activities included product pumping, hand-bailing, sorbent wick/boom placement, and groundwater monitoring.



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CURRENT STATUS

In February 2011, the MDE approved the *Corrective Action Work Plan (CAP) - December 28, 2010* for this site, which proposed the removal of petroleum contaminated soils from select locations (Areas A, C, D, and I) where contamination was identified during a Phase II investigation. The remedial goal as described in the *CAP* is to remove as much source material as possible to eliminate the petroleum seep observed in the Little Gunpowder River. In September 2012 a fire was reported at this facility. Due to the fire damage, all buildings on-site were demolished. Demolition of the buildings allowed for additional petroleum contaminated soil excavation from areas that were previously inaccessible. During implementation of the *CAP*, approximately 4,422 tons of petroleum contaminated soil was excavated from areas throughout the site. The results of the *CAP* were assessed through the collection of 154 soil and sediment samples submitted for laboratory analysis of petroleum constituents.

In April 2013, three underground storage tanks (USTs) were removed: a 2,000-gallon gasoline; an 8,000-gallon #2 heating oil; and a 20,000-gallon used oil. Upon removal of the 20,000-gallon waste oil UST, a brick structure was encountered that contained hydraulic oil. A groundwater pump-and-treat system was used to recover approximately 50 to 100 gallons of LPH from the brick structure.

Monthly gauging and quarterly sampling of the monitoring well network is ongoing. Petroleum product is periodically observed from a natural seep in the bank of the Little Gunpowder River. The seep is monitored on a weekly basis and currently sorbent booms are in place to prevent the product from entering the river.

There are two on-site potable wells, which are sampled on a semi-annual basis. Both potable wells have been non-detect for petroleum constituents. Due to the location of the facility, the MDE-OCP does not anticipate expanding the off-site residential sampling effort beyond sampling needed to ensure community safety.

FUTURE UPDATES

- Postings on www.mde.maryland.gov
- File available at the MDE Headquarters

CONTACTS

- Maryland Department of the Environment, Oil Control Program: 410-537-3442
- 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 MDE. To fully understand the site and surrounding environmental conditions, MDE recommends that the reader review the case file that is available at MDE 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 MDE on liability, involvement in a wrongful act, or contribution to environmental damage.