

Facts About...

ALLIED/HONEYWELL SITE AT HARBOR POINT (Next to Living Classrooms – Site of Meeting)

**Site Description**: The Baltimore Chrome Works Facility was constructed in the mid-nineteenth century on 18 acres of waterfront property near Fells Point. Chromium ore was processed to produce chromium chemicals until 1985. Allied Chemicals, later AlliedSignal, now Honeywell, acquired the plant in 1954. Environmental investigations conducted at the site during the 1980's established that large quantities of chromium, calculated to be approximately 62 pounds per day, were migrating from the site, with most of the chromium being released to the Baltimore harbor.

**Consent Decree**: In 1989, MDE, EPA and Allied entered into a Consent Decree requiring Allied to fully investigate the impact of releases from the site, and implement cleanup. This Consent Decree was unique at the time, because in addition to outlining a containment remedy and cleanup goals for the site, it also anticipated future reuse of the site.

**Clean up:** In 1990, Allied began dismantling on-site buildings. Hazardous wastes were disposed at the Hawkins Point Hazardous Waste Landfill. To provide



structural support to failing bulkheads, Allied constructed a stone embankment around the three sides of the site that border on the Patapsco River. Harbor bottom material dredged from the river during embankment construction was disposed at Hart-Miller Island.

Allied constructed a 3-foot wide hydraulic barrier that extended to depths of 70 foot around the perimeter in 1996. Concentrations of chrome in the harbor decreased to under 20 parts per billion. A 5 foot thick cap was constructed over the area including a capillary break, synthetic clay, a plastic membrane, and clean soil layers. The cap, completed in 1999, has prevented surface releases of chromium. There is also a system to extract contaminated groundwater from 16 wells on-site, lowering groundwater levels to elevations less than that of the Patapsco River. The remedy took over 10 years and \$100 million to complete. The result is total containment with on-going monitoring to demonstrate the remedy is working. Honeywell remains perpetually responsible for monitoring and maintenance of the containment structure around the property.



Redevelopment is challenging due to need to work around the remedy and MDE/EPA approval of plans prior to construction. The site is on the verge of reuse with a \$400M redevelopment project. Harbor Point will include green design office buildings, a hotel, a waterfront park, a public promenade and green space. H&S is now in charge of site construction work, since SBER has encountered financial difficulties. The first building constructed is now occupied.

