Martin Marietta Laboratories Baltimore, Maryland Baltimore County (MD-172)

Site Location

The approximately 15-acre Martin Marietta Laboratories (MML) site is located at 1450 South Rolling Road in Baltimore County. It is approximately 3.5 miles southwest of Baltimore City. It is bounded on the north by the Oblate Sisters Convent, on the east by Rolling Road and the facility's parking lots, on the south by woodlands and fields to I-95, and on the west by an unnamed stream, parking areas and woodlands.

The current owner of the property of the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development. The University of Maryland, Baltimore Campus holds a long-term lease on the property.

Site History

MML was established at this location in 1965. The facility consisted of six main buildings spread over an area of approximately 12 to 15 acres. MML was the central research and development facility for the Martin Marietta Corporation. The Rolling Road facility provided research and development technologies which focused on microelectronics, advanced materials, and information processing.

Prior to 1980, laboratory personnel used six separate laboratory waste pits lined with limestone chips for acid waste disposal and one neutralization tank in the area now located under the large parking area southeast of the main building. Additionally, 17 sanitary seepage pits comprising part of the laboratory's former sewage disposal system is now covered by the parking lot for Building B. The facility also used three permitted outfalls for discharging non-contact cooling water, storm water runoff, and air conditioning condensate. Currently, the facility has two permitted outfalls used for the same purposes.

In 1980, MML tied into the Baltimore County municipal water and sewer system. All waste and sanitary seepage pits were abandoned and backfilled with crusher run. The 17 original sanitary pits were covered over by one of the facility's employee parking lots.

In 1995, when Martin Marietta Corporation merged with Lockheed, the major projects at the facility were transferred to other Lockheed locations. All chemicals in MML's Resource Conservation and Recovery Act storage facility were removed at this time. The Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development purchased the property in October 1996.

Currently, the buildings house "start-up" businesses, mostly laboratory-oriented, along with software development companies and continuing education programs.

Environmental Investigations

In 1983, an investigation of MML was initiated by both the Baltimore County Health Department and the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene when area citizens claimed that toxic levels of 1,1,1-trichloroethane (1,1,1-TCA) were being discharged by MML via two of their outfalls. Samples taken at the MML outfalls were found to be free of 1,1,1-TCA.

In April 1984, seven soil borings were taken for soil analysis to address concerns that the acid waste disposal pits might be adversely impacting the groundwater and also to collect geotechnical data for proposed parking lot construction. EP toxicity analysis indicated that barium was present in soil at up to 0.23 mg/L and chromium at 0.1 mg/L. Eight volatile organic compounds were detected in soil boring samples: benzene (up to 90 μ g/kg), chlorobenzene (up to 10 μ g/kg), 1,1,1-TCA (up to 270 μ g/kg), ethylbenzene (up to 20 μ g/kg), methylene chloride (up to 1,300 μ g/kg), trichlorofluoromethane (up to 2,500 μ g/kg), toluene (up to 20 μ g/kg), and trichloroethene (up to 50 μ g/kg).

Current Status

Pursuant to the Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) conducted a Site Survey of MML. The Site Survey Initiative was proposed to reassess the status of those sites that were previously designated No Further Remedial Action Planned by EPA. The Site Survey concluded that further action is required by MDE and that EPA should archive the site.

Contact

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