WESTVIEW MALL Baltimore, Maryland Baltimore County Non-Master List Site

Site Location

Westview Mall is located in the northeast quadrant of the intersection of Interstate 695 and Route 40 in Baltimore County, Maryland. The site is bordered to the north by a residential community and a church, to the east by Ingleside Avenue, to the south by Route 40 and to the west by I-695. The site is generally surrounded by retail shops, a motel, a car dealership, a real estate office, and restaurants. Westview Mall occupies approximately 42 acres.

Site History

Historical documents indicate that a former dry cleaning operation (Lord Baltimore Laundry) was located in that portion of the mall where contamination was identified. In December of 1991, ATEC, an environmental consulting firm, conducted a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment Update of the Westview Mall for Westview Mall Associates. In addition, a monitoring well was to be installed to replace a well which had been constructed over during building expansion.

Environmental Investigations

Sampling of the replacement well revealed perchloroethene (PCE) contamination in the groundwater at 365 μ g/L. Installation of additional monitoring wells and further sampling between 1992 and 1995 verified the presence of a significant contaminant plume. Concentrations of PCE near the former dry cleaner were detected at levels up to 97,000 μ g/L.

In the Fall of 1996, a pump and treat/soil vapor extraction (SVE) system began operating to address contamination of the shallow groundwater aquifer (saprolite). Groundwater sampling, which occurred concurrently with the planning of the remediation system in the early 1990s, indicates that contaminant concentrations have decreased significantly; however, the latest PCE concentrations in the source area remain in the 3,000 μ g/L range. PCE concentrations in off-site, downgradient wells were detected at 200 μ g/L (approximately 200 feet away from the source area, directly across the street from the site) and non-detect approximately 500 feet from the source area.

In January of 1998, MDE approved a reduction in sampling frequency from quarterly to biannually, since concentrations indicated a decreasing trend. However, since current groundwater PCE concentrations are still significantly elevated, the pump and treat system continues to operate at the site.

Current Status

In late 1999, a mall expansion project plan called for construction over the source area where part of the treatment system was in operation. The property owner now plans to install replacement recovery wells further downgradient and install passive vapor monitoring to continue to address the contaminant source under the newly constructed building. This plan was approved by MDE in March 2000.

Contact Person

Arthur O'Connell Maryland Department of the Environment 410-537-3493

Last updated: August 2000