



Maryland Department of the
Environment

FACTS ABOUT: Eastalco Compensatory Storage Yard

Site Location

The 14-acre Eastalco site is located at the end of Quarantine Road in Hawkins Point, Baltimore City, Maryland. The site is situated in a maritime/industrial area at an elevation of approximately 10 feet above mean sea level, between the north side of I-695 and the Patapsco River. The site contains five aboveground storage tanks (ASTs), several small buildings and a ship unloading dock. An electrical substation is located on the southern section of the site. The rest of the site consists of a waste disposal area that is capped and vegetated with grass.

Site History

The Eastalco site was listed as one of several locations to receive Chrome Ore Processing Residue (COPR) in the 1970s and/or the 1980s as a fill material to be used on the site. It is not known if the Eastalco site was filled with this material or if the material that was used at the site previously was contaminated.

The Eastalco site is currently owned by the Maryland Port Authority, who leases the site to Eastalco for the purpose of loading/unloading material from ships. The site has been used for loading/unloading ships at least since 1945 based on historical aerial photography. The area inside the pier was not filled in the forties and fifties and appears to have been used for a “ship graveyard” with about a dozen sunken hulks visible in one photograph from 1957. The area southeast of the loading dock has been used to dispose of excess fill material which may have contained chromium wastes.

Environmental Investigations

A Site Inspection (SI) was performed in June 2009 by the CHS Enforcement Division of MDE. The SI did identify chromium VI in soils at up to 94.5 mg/kg, which exceeds EPA’s industrial screening level; however MDE recommends no further investigation since the property is secured and exposure is unlikely. MDE also recommends that covenants and deed restrictions be placed on the property detailing limitations in the event of future development.

Current Status

The SI was reviewed and approved by the EPA. EPA has given the site a No Further Remedial Action Planned designation.



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