



Facts About...

Keystone Fireworks (MD-541)
State Master List

Site Location

The 23.9-acre site is located at 1687 E. Old Philadelphia Road near Elkton in Cecil County, Maryland. The site is situated in a mixed commercial and industrial area.

Site History

The Keystone Fireworks site has been owned by a number of different property owners between 1935 and 2007. The current property owner, Ray Logging Co., has owned the property since 1996. Firework manufacturing operations are believed to have occurred on the property between 1944 and 1996. Prior to 1944, the property appears to have been used for agricultural purposes.

Between 1944 and 1996, firework manufacturing operations are believed to have been conducted by Crown Fireworks Company and Keystone Fireworks. Keystone Fireworks is the most recent company to have manufactured fireworks on the property.

Environmental Investigations

As part of an EPA initiative to investigate former fireworks and munition manufacturers in the area, a preliminary assessment/site inspection (PA/SI) was performed by the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) in June 2007. Soils, surface waters, sediments and groundwater were sampled and analyzed for metals, volatile organic compounds, semi-volatile organic compounds and perchlorates. The results of the analyses indicated that the soils and surface waters contained concentrations of some metals that exceeded MDE and/or EPA standards. Low levels of perchlorate were detected in one groundwater sample and the sample from the residential well on the property. Several metals identified in groundwater exceeded MDE and EPA standards; however, for dissolved metals, only iron, manganese, aluminum and thallium were identified at levels exceeding standards.

Current Status

The site is still under investigation and the status will be determined after a review of the latest environmental assessment.

Contact Person

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