

FMC Corporation

**1701 E Patapsco Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21226
Congressional District 2
EPA ID #: MDD003071875
Last Updated: 01/02/2009**

Current Progress at the Site

This facility is approximately 84 years old and is located on Curtis Bay, in Baltimore, Maryland. FMC has recently ended operations at the Curtis Bay agricultural chemicals facility and is currently dismantling equipment. FMC is working with Energy Answers International to develop a Resource Recovery System at this location.

In November 1989, EPA issued a RCRA corrective action permit to the company to proceed with site cleanup. EPA and the facility worked jointly to complete the requirements of the permit which included:

- Providing supplemental groundwater characterization of the facility and submittal of a Groundwater Characterization Report;
- Submittal of a Contaminant Characterization Summary;
- Preparation of a Corrective measures Report identifying alternatives for facility remediation; and
- Development of a Corrective Measures Plan.

The corrective measures study recommended a pump and treat system to remove contaminated groundwater from the underlying aquifer below the plant and to prevent its migration into Curtis Bay. After treatment, the groundwater is then sent to the POTW. The system's construction was completed in May 1997. The system has been operational since that time. The pump and treat system will be operational while the groundwater has contaminants that are above a health based protective level. The facility provides EPA Region III with quarterly reports addressing the groundwater collection and treatment system. Based on the results provided in the quarterly reports, a Visualization of Groundwater Contamination Report was prepared by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers for EPA in April 2003. The purpose of the report was to provide a better understanding of the contaminant plumes, determine the effectiveness of the groundwater extraction system, and to develop groundwater elevation contours for the FMC site. EPA has reviewed that data and will be working with FMC to maximize the effectiveness of the groundwater collection system. FMC has recently completed a round of bioassay testing that is part of the groundwater monitoring program for that facility. EPA has evaluated and discussed

those results with FMC. FMC had recently requested that a portion of the property be enrolled in the MDE Voluntary Cleanup Program, investigated, and divested from the remainder of the operating plant property. MDE and EPA were evaluating that request when FMC announced that they will be closing the facility in March 2008. EPA is currently completing a groundwater visualization study that will assess the groundwater data collected over the past three years. The results of this study will help to direct further remedial action. RCRA Corrective Action activities will continue during the redevelopment of the property.

Site Description

Located in Baltimore, Maryland, the FMC Corporation Site encompasses approximately 90 acres. The facility was built by previous owners in 1915 as an ethanol and acetone production facility to help provide war materials. In 1954 FMC purchased the site and has used it since then for the production of agricultural and industrial organic chemicals.

Site Responsibility

RCRA Corrective Action activities at this facility are being conducted under the direction of EPA Region 3 with assistance from the State.

Contaminants

The main contaminants in the groundwater and surface water are benzene, ethyl benzene, chlorobenzene, substituted chlorobenzene isomers and phenolic compounds.

Community Interaction

The FMC Corporation Site is located in an industrial area of Baltimore. The facility borders Curtis Bay which drains into the Chesapeake Bay. The nearest community is located within one mile of the facility.

Since 1989, the FMC Corporation and EPA Region III held a public meeting to inform the community about progress of the cleanup.

FMC's redevelopment plans for the site were received favorably by MDE and the nearby community association.

Institutional Controls

No institutional controls are currently in place.

Government Contacts

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For more information about EPA's corrective action webpage, including Environmental Indicators, please visit our site at: www.epa.gov/reg3wcmd/correctiveaction.htm

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