

Pemco Corporation

5601 Eastern Ave.
Baltimore, MD 21224
Congressional District
EPA ID #: MDD003093499
Last Updated: 12/13/2008

Current Progress at the Site

PEMCO Corporation recently announced that it is closing its Baltimore facility that manufactures inorganic pigments and specialty glass (frit) that are used to produce porcelain enamel and ceramic glaze coatings. The facility has been in operation since the early 1920's. PEMCO has elected to enter the facility into the Maryland Department of the Environment's Voluntary Cleanup Program ("VCP") and EPA's RCRA Facility Lead Agreement ("FLA") program. The Company has conducted a site investigation in support of its participation in both programs. A Site Characterization Work Plan has been prepared and submitted to both EPA and MDE. EPA recently approved the Work Plan, with minor comments. MDE is currently reviewing the Work Plan. Implementation of the Work Plan has commenced and should be concluded by late Spring 2009. It is anticipated that the property will be sold and redeveloped for mixed residential and commercial uses.

Site Description

The PEMCO site is an approximately 20-acre parcel located in a mixed residential, commercial/industrial zone in eastern Baltimore City, Maryland. The property is zoned heavy industrial. The site currently includes several one- and two-story buildings totaling approximately 196,000 square feet. Approximately half of this space is used for manufacturing with the remainder used for office, storage and laboratories. The site also includes an approximately four-acre landfill that was used as a disposal area for off-specification frit from plant operations. PEMCO ceased using the landfill in 1979. The landfill area has been covered with a vegetated soil cap. The anticipated redevelopment of the site will result in demolition of all existing structures on the property.

Site Responsibility

RCRA Facility Lead Agreement activities at the site are being conducted under the direction of EPA Region 3. VCP activities at the site are being conducted under the direction of MDE.

Contaminants

The contaminants of concern are primarily VOCs in the soils.

Community Interaction

PEMCO has been in discussions with numerous neighborhood organizations regarding the closure and proposed redevelopment of the site. A Public Involvement Plan was developed as part of the EPA-approved Site Characterization Work Plan in accordance with the FLA requirements.

Institutional Controls

No institutional controls are currently in place.

Government Contact

EPA Project Manager
Mr. William Geiger
USEPA REGION 3
1650 Arch Street
Mail Code: 3LC20
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029
(215) 814-3413

MDE Contact
Mr. James R. Carroll, Administrator
Environmental Restoration & Redevelopment Program
Maryland Department of the Environment
1800 Washington Boulevard
Baltimore, MD 21230
(410) 537-3459

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

Facility Contact

Mr. Leonard G. Rafalko
ERM, Inc.
200 Harry S. Truman Parkway, Suite 400
Annapolis, MD 21401
(410) 266-0006