

**EPA FACT SHEET
FOR A CORRECTIVE ACTION PERMIT RENEWAL
To
Former General Electric Appliance Park East Facility
Columbia, Maryland
EPA ID No. MDD046279311**

This fact sheet was developed for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) portion of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) permit which EPA and the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) propose to reissue to General Electric Company's (GE's) Former Appliance Park East Facility located in Columbia, Maryland (Facility). The full RCRA permit consists of EPA's portion, which addresses the provisions of the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments of 1984 (HSWA), and MDE's portion, which addresses that portion of the hazardous waste management program for which MDE is authorized. This fact sheet was prepared in accordance with the requirements of 40 C.F.R. § 124.8.

I. PURPOSE OF THE PERMITTING PROCESS

EPA is required to prepare a draft permit which sets forth in one concise document all applicable requirements which the Agency intends to require GE to comply with during the ten (10) year duration of EPA's permit. The permitting process allows EPA, interested citizens, and other governmental agencies the opportunity to evaluate the ability of GE to comply with the applicable hazardous waste management requirements promulgated under RCRA, as amended by HSWA. The public is given forty-five (45) days to review and comment on the draft permit conditions prior to EPA taking any final action on EPA's draft permit.

II. PROCEDURES FOR REACHING A FINAL DECISION

Section 7004(b) of RCRA and 40 C.F.R. § 124.10 require that the public be given 45 days to comment on each draft permit prepared under RCRA. The comment period will begin 09/02/2022 to 10/17/2022. Any person interested in commenting on this draft permit must do so within the 45-day comment period.

All persons wishing to comment on any of the permit conditions should submit the comments (including any supporting material, references, and factual grounds) electronically to:

John Hopkins
U.S. EPA Region III
RCRA Corrective Action Branch #1 (Mailcode 3LD10)
4 Penn Center
1600 JFK Blvd
Philadelphia, PA 19103
hopkins.john@epa.gov

In the event EPA receives written notice of opposition to the draft permit conditions and a request for a public hearing within the 45-day comment period, a hearing will be scheduled at a location convenient to the population center nearest to the Facility. Public notice of the hearing will be given at least 30 days before the hearing. Any request for a public hearing, accompanied by written opposition to the draft permit should be addressed to John Hopkins at the address referenced above. For further information or to view the administrative record for this draft permit, contact John Hopkins via phone at (215) 814-3437 or email at hopkins.john@epa.gov.

Handicapped persons with a need for special services should contact EPA far enough in advance of the hearing to enable the services to be secured. When making a determination regarding the issuance of this permit to GE, EPA will consider all written comments received during the comment period, oral and written statements received during the public hearing (if held), the requirements of the hazardous waste regulations of 40 C.F.R. Parts 124, 260-264, 268, and 270, EPA's permitting policies, and HSWA.

When EPA makes a final permit decision to either issue, deny, or modify this draft permit, notice will be given to GE and each person who submitted written comments or requested notice of the final decision. The final permit decision shall become effective thirty (30) days after the service of notice of the decision unless a later date is specified or review is requested under 40 C.F.R. § 124.19. If no comments request a change in this draft permit, the final permit shall become effective immediately once issued.

This draft permit contains conditions requiring GE to implement corrective measures at the Facility to prevent exposure to hazardous constituents to human health and the environment.

III. FACILITY BACKGROUND

Between 1969 and 1970, GE constructed the Former Appliance Park East manufacturing facility at the Facility which comprised 440 acres of a 1,125-acre parcel of land GE purchased from Howard Research and Development Corporation (HRD). From 1970 to 1990, GE manufactured household appliances, primarily electric ranges and ovens at the Facility. GE's operations at the Facility consisted of the fabrication, finishing, and final assembly of metal components. Fabrication involved metal cutting, pressing, and welding. Finishing involved metal cleaning, electroplating, and the application of paint finishes.

In 1987 the State of Maryland issued GE a RCRA Post-Closure Permit [Controlled Hazardous Substance (CHS) Permit No. A-011] (CHS Permit) to GE for post-closure care of the three on-site landfills. In 1991, EPA issued GE a RCRA Corrective Action Permit (CA Permit).

GE discontinued operations at the Facility in 1990 and sold the majority of the Facility property back to HRD for redevelopment. GE retained ownership of 21 acres where three closed landfills are located. Redevelopment of the Facility includes reuse of the original manufacturing buildings by new businesses, construction of a new retail strip mall, restaurants, a multiplex movie theater, residential town homes, and a corporate office park.

IV. EPA INSPECTIONS, EVALUATIONS, AND CONCLUSIONS

There are several solid waste management units (SWMUs) and Areas of Concern (AOCs) located on the Facility. SWMUs are defined under RCRA as areas where solid wastes have been placed, or areas where solid wastes have been routinely and systematically released. AOCs are areas where hazardous waste and/or hazardous constituents have or may have been released. The CA Permit requires GE to address any contamination present at the Facility. Multiple SWMUs and AOCs were identified by the CA Permit and have been addressed. Of all the SWMUs and AOCs addressed under the CA Permit, corrective action is on-going at only three units. In October 2012, EPA renewed GE's CA Permit that required GE to implement a site-wide remedy addressing remaining onsite contamination (Final Remedy). The goal of the Final Remedy is to ensure the overall protection of human health and the environment. The Final Remedy for the Facility consists of active remediation and implementing Institutional Controls (ICs). The components of the active remediation required under the 2012 CA Permit consist of: (1) operation and maintenance of a groundwater pump-and-treat (P&T) system and soil vapor extraction (SVE) system; and (2) long-term groundwater monitoring at CMS Unit 4, RFI Unit 6, and CMS Units 2 and 7. However, by its January 24, 2018 email, EPA approved GE's request to decommission the SVE system based on asymptotic decline of soil vapor concentrations. In addition, by its August 2, 2018 email, EPA approved no further action for groundwater at CMS Unit 4 (former underground storage tank [UST-9 area]) after verification sampling performed in May 2018 confirmed attainment of groundwater cleanup goals at that location.

Under EPA's Final Remedy some concentrations of contaminants remain in the groundwater and/or soil above levels appropriate for residential and domestic uses. ICs will be implemented to restrict use of the Facility property and groundwater to prevent exposure to contaminants while the contaminants remain in place. ICs are non-engineered mechanisms such as administrative and/or legal controls that minimize the potential for human exposure to contamination and/or protect the integrity of a remedy and provide an additional level of environmental protection. GE will continue to submit semi-annual reports to EPA and MDE documenting the progress of the Final Remedy.

A description of the units is provided below:

1. RFI Unit 6

The Oil/Water (O/W) Separator and Acid Neutralization (A/N) Unit were in the former forklift truck maintenance area of Warehouse Building on Parcel A-74, which was addressed under the 1991 CA Permit as part of AOC 8. Each unit was a below grade structure, constructed of concrete. Both units were addressed as RFI Unit 6 due to their proximity to each other.

2. CMS Units 2 and 7

CMS Units 2 and 7 are located on the former Range Building on Parcel A-40 and originally consisted of soil and groundwater at and downgradient of the building. The former Exterior Trichloroethene Tank (ETT), former Oil Drum Storage Room (ODSR), and groundwater beneath the former Range Building were designated as

CMS Unit 2. The Press Pit in the basement of the former Range Building was designated as CMS Unit 7. Due to proximity and similar contaminants, the corrective measures for CMS Units 2 and 7 were combined.

V. REMEDY ACTIVITIES IN NEW PERMIT

EPA is requiring that GE implement the following corrective measures to prevent any exposure of hazardous constituents to humans and/or the environment:

Unit	Parcel	Ongoing Corrective Action
RFI Unit 6	A-74	Long-term groundwater monitoring
CMS Units 2 and 7	A-10 and A-40	Active groundwater remediation (P&T system) and long-term groundwater monitoring
Institutional Controls	A-8, A-10, A-15, A-40, and A-74	Annual monitoring in accordance with the approved IC Plan