



Pepco Benning Road Site Cleanup

Summary of the Health and Safety Plan

Public Comment Period: August 9, 2012 – September 28, 2012

Submit Comments By Mail: District Department of the Environment
Environmental Services Administration
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Washington D.C., 20002
Attention: Apurva Patil

Or By Email: apurva.patil@dc.gov

Pepco and the District Department of the Environment (DDOE) entered into a consent decree (legally binding settlement agreement) on December 1, 2011 requiring Pepco to conduct an investigation of potential contaminant release from their 77-acre Benning Road facility into the nearby Anacostia River. The first step (establishment of the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) Scope of Work detailing site background information and project procedures) and second step (development and initial implementation of the Community Involvement Plan) in this process are complete. Work plans are currently available for public comment (RI/FS Work Plan, Sampling and Analysis Plan, and Health and Safety Plan). Site assessment will begin Fall 2012, once DDOE has reviewed public comments on these work plans and given final approval. **It is important that citizens file comments so that DDOE and Pepco know that people care and want to see the best cleanup possible for the health of the community.**

The Health and Safety Plan, prepared by AECOM, identifies known hazards associated with field work activities and describes the personal protection and safety procedures expected of its employees and subcontractors involved in the investigation of the study area.

Listed below are some highlights/areas of interest from this document:

- In order to minimize potential risks associated with investigation activities to workers and the public, three (3) types of zones within the study area will be sectioned off and monitored to ensure proper compliance: Exclusion Zone - Contaminated Work Area, Contamination Reduction Zone - Decontamination Area, and Support Zone - Uncontaminated Area. (Pg. 9-1 through 9-4, Section 9)

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- All investigation-derived waste, equipment use, and site preservation protocols will be followed according to environmental regulations. Investigation-derived waste will be classified as non-hazardous or hazardous and disposed of appropriately. Equipment will be decontaminated prior to being used in the study area and between each sampling activity. Any environmental disturbances caused by field work activities will be returned to former conditions. (Pg. 2-6, Section 2.2 & Pg. 6-25, Section 6.1)
- Roles and responsibilities for the field work to be conducted in the study area have been clearly identified. (Pg. 8-30 through 8-33, Section 8)
- Anyone working for AECOM on this project must
 - Review this Health and Safety Plan and sign an acknowledgement form (Pg. 11-1, Section 11);
 - Review and sign all other acknowledgement forms within the Health and Safety Plan that outline the hazards and safety measures associated with each field task (Task Hazard Analysis documents – Attachment A); and
 - Participate in safety training sessions (Pg. 4-15, Section 4)

prior to engaging in any assessment activities to ensure his/her understanding of potential job risks and safety measures (including emergencies – Section 10) he/she must take. (Pg. 3-7 through 5-17 & 7-26 through 7-29, Sections 3, 4, 5, & 7)

- Potential contaminants in the study area have been identified as the following (Pg. 5-18 & 5-19, Section 5):
 - Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs)
 - Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)
 - Heavy metals (lead, arsenic, chromium, nickel, cadmium, and selenium)
 - Vanadium

Note: Outside research shows that PAHs are products of fossil fuel combustion; PCBs are found in transformers, capacitors, and other electrical equipment; heavy metals are found in a variety of substances (batteries, gasoline, electrical devices, emissions from fuel combustion); and vanadium is found in petroleum residue and soot from burning oil. All of these contaminants are harmful to humans at certain levels and a few may even cause cancer.

Stay tuned to these websites for updated information as this cleanup moves forward:

AWS – <http://www.anacostiaaws.org/programs/advocacy/toxics>

DDOE – <http://ddoe.dc.gov/page/pepco-benning-road-facility-plans-and-deliverables>

Pepco – <http://www.benningservicecenter.com/>