

ADELPHI LABORATORY CENTER
Silver Spring, Maryland
(Federal Facility)

Site Location

Adelphi Laboratory Center (ALC) is located approximately five miles northeast of Washington, D.C. The facility occupies a total of 137 acres, 82 acres in Montgomery County and 55 acres in Prince George's County. It is located adjacent to the White Oak Naval Surface Warfare Center (NSWC).

Site History

In 1969, the Navy transferred 167 acres of undeveloped farmland to the Army. This property became the location of the Harry Diamond Laboratories (HDL) in the mid-1970s. HDL constructed and utilized a high technology research and development facility with an emphasis on electronic fuzing for projectiles, fluidics, and nuclear weapons effects technologies. In the early 1990s, HDL became Adelphi Laboratory Center.

The facility is currently expanding due to the transfer of activities to the facility as the result of the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) program.

Environmental Investigations and Actions

- 1982-Preliminary Assessment completed. EPA recommended no further action.
- 1994-Geohydrologic Study completed. The Army concluded that the minor petroleum hydrocarbon and inorganic contamination in the groundwater was

coming from an upgradient source associated with the White Oak NSWC.

- 1996-Draft Remedial Investigation (RI) report for Bldg. 500 completed. Trichloroethene (TCE) was detected in monitoring wells above the maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 5 parts per billion (ppb). No off-site or on-site potable water wells have been contaminated. An explosive compound (RDX) was detected in one monitoring well. In addition, TCE was detected in surface water; however, no levels exceeded the Ambient Water Quality Criteria.
- Spring 1997-MDE's Oil Control Program oversaw the removal of two 500,000 gallon ASTs formerly containing non-PCB dielectric oil. Contaminated soils beneath the tanks were also removed for off-site disposal.
- Fall 1997-The draft final RI report for Bldg. 500 was submitted to MDE for review. The report included recently conducted Phase II work which involved the installation of additional groundwater monitoring wells and the collection of surface water and groundwater samples. In October 1997, the Navy installed an air stripper adjacent to Bldg. 500 to treat the local groundwater. The Navy is continuing its investigation of the White Oak facility upgradient

MD-068 Montgomery/Prince George's Counties	
1969	Land transferred from Navy to Army.
1970s	Harry Diamond Laboratories (HDL) constructs research facilities.
1982	Preliminary Assessment completed.
1990s	HDL becomes ALC.
1994	Geohydrologic study completed.
1996	Investigation initiated at Building 500 to identify potential groundwater contamination.
Mar. 1997	MDE's Oil Control Program oversees removal of two 500,000 gallon ASTs and contaminated soils.
Sept. 1997	Final Remedial Investigation (RI) report completed for Bldg. 107 PCB site.
Oct. 1997	Air stripper installed at Bldg. 500 to treat groundwater contaminated with TCE.
Nov. 1997	Draft RI report for Site 8 submitted for review.
Dec. 1997	Draft final RI report for Bldg. 500 reviewed by MDE.

from the site to determine the source of the TCE contamination.

- Fall 1997-The Army completed its investigation of a small area of PCB contamination adjacent to Bldg. 107. A risk assessment determined that the site does not present an unacceptable risk to human health.
- Fall 1997-The Army submitted the draft RI of Site 8. Site 8 is a small former chemical disposal area located on the White Oak NSWC facility near the ACL property boundary. The investigation focuses on contaminant migration onto Army property via groundwater and surface water.

Current Status

The Army is currently negotiating with the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) to connect two residences to WSSC's municipal water supply system. The residences are located immediately downgradient from the Bldg. 500 area at ALC and utilize private groundwater supply wells. Although sampling of these deeper bedrock wells has not revealed degradation to the potable groundwater supply, the Army is providing the residences with bottled water.

Planned or Potential Future Action

No additional RI work for the Bldg. 500 area is planned by the Army. The Navy is to assume the responsibility of assessing the remedial alternatives for the site in a FS, as well as conduct the remedial action. In the meantime, the Army plans on implementing a long-term monitoring plan in the spring of 1998 until the remedial action is initiated. The Army intends on following the CERCLA process to pursue a "No Further Action" record of decision for the Bldg. 107 site.

Facility Contacts

Project Manager	Agency/Organization	Phone Number
John Fairbank	Maryland Department of the Environment 2500 Broening Highway Baltimore, MD 21224	(410) 631-3440
Bob Craig	U.S. Army Research Laboratory Adelphi Laboratory Center Adelphi, MD. 20783-1145	(301) 394-6301