

## Land and Materials Administration

Solid Waste Program – Solid Waste Operations



**Maryland**  
Department of  
the Environment

### Memorandum

TO: Brian Dietz and Anu Mohanty  
THRU: Andrew Grenzer & Binyam Woldemichael *BW*  
FROM: Jessica Vavrek JV  
DATE: January 13, 2023  
RE: Eastalco North Industrial Landfill – Second 2022 Semiannual Groundwater Monitoring Report (CY-2022-347)

This memo is in reference to the report titled “Second 2022 Semiannual Water Quality Report” for the North Landfill at the Eastalco site in Frederick County, Maryland. Tetra Tech prepared the report for Quantum Loophole. Quantum Loophole acquired the property from ALCOA on June 28, 2021. The Maryland Department of the Environment received the report on December 28, 2022. The Eastalco facility was an aluminum smelter. The plant is closed and has been demolished.

The North Landfill is monitored on a semi-annual frequency from a set of seven groundwater monitoring wells: MW-64, MW-74, MW-75, MW-76, MW-77, and MW-111. Wells MW-64, and MW-111 are situated upgradient. MW-111 was installed in 2016 as a replacement well for MW- 63. MW-111 was sampled concurrently with the well MW-63 until the first 2020 sampling event. MDE approved the discontinuation of MW-63 on February 7, 2020.

The monitoring wells are gauged monthly to determine groundwater contours and evaluate the elevation of the groundwater beneath the lined landfill cells. This site has previous instances where groundwater has been above the 3-foot buffer zone outlined for industrial waste landfills in COMAR subsection 26.04.07.19D(3).

Total fluoride was detected at 0.2 mg/L, below the primary drinking water standard (“MCL”) of 4 mg/L. No primary MCL is exceeded at the site. The reporting limit for fluoride was higher than the PQL of 0.1 mg/L. Currently the detections are low concentrations much lower than the MCL. MDE will look carefully if it becomes an issue.

Monitoring should continue at the landfill according to the approved groundwater monitoring plan. Questions regarding this matter may be directed to [jessica.vavrek@maryland.gov](mailto:jessica.vavrek@maryland.gov) or ext.3365.

JV