



# Maryland

## Department of the Environment

Larry Hogan, Governor  
Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor

Ben Grumbles, Secretary  
Horacio Tablada, Deputy Secretary

June 14, 2018

**RE: COMMUNITY UPDATE**  
**Case No. 2006-0303-BA**  
**Former Exxon R/S No. 2-8077**  
**14258 Jarrettsville Pike, Phoenix**  
**Baltimore County, Maryland**

Dear Resident or Property Owner:

The Maryland Department of the Environment (the Department) is sending this notice to provide you with an update on groundwater cleanup efforts since the January 2006 ExxonMobil gasoline release in Jacksonville, Maryland, and to inform you of certain decisions the Department has reached on proposed actions by ExxonMobil.

### **Groundwater Cleanup Background / Update**

Currently, there are 304 wells installed at various depths for groundwater recovery and/or monitoring of gasoline constituents in the study area. Recovery of groundwater is being performed from up to 62 of those wells on eight separate properties and from the intersection of Routes 145 and 146. Groundwater remediation system equipment is located on two ExxonMobil owned properties: the former Exxon station and 3418 Sweet Air Road. To date, more than 136.5 million gallons of groundwater have been treated to meet State and federal discharge standards through these systems and discharged back into the environment to the Green Branch and the Sawmill Branch, which are located southwest and northeast of the former Exxon station, respectively. All groundwater withdrawals and discharges of treated groundwater are conducted under the provisions of a State water appropriations permit and a State and federal discharge permit. The quality of discharged groundwater is monitored and is in compliance with the discharge permit.

Since the Department's directives in December 2006, ExxonMobil has been sampling 258 private supply wells in the study area. Currently, ExxonMobil maintains 14 point of entry treatment (POET) systems that were installed on private supply wells either due to a documented well impact or as a precautionary measure. All private supply wells within the study area that are monitored by ExxonMobil have met applicable State groundwater standards and action levels for gasoline constituents since December 2011, with one exception. Since September 2014, methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE) concentrations in this private supply well have been detected at levels over the State action level of 20 micrograms per liter ( $\mu\text{g/L}$ ). ExxonMobil maintains a POET system at this property, which is removing the MTBE and other detected gasoline constituents to meet applicable standards and action levels.

The groundwater remediation systems continue to recover contaminated groundwater that does not meet State water quality standards from the former Exxon station property and the treatment zones to the northeast of the former Exxon station. Routine adjustments to the remediation systems to more efficiently recover the remaining contamination are approved by the Department. In addition to groundwater recovery, extraction of soil vapor continues at the former Exxon station property and the adjacent intersection of Routes 145 and 146.

Since May 2009, the contaminant levels in the groundwater recovered from the treatment zones to the southwest of the former Exxon station have met State groundwater standards and action levels. Groundwater remediation in this area is largely complete and the Department approved the closure of 23 monitoring wells in this area on December 6, 2017.

The Department continues to work with ExxonMobil and its consultants to investigate additional remediation opportunities in the northeast area of the study area.

### **Proposed Discontinuation of Bottled Water Delivery Program**

On July 23, 2015, ExxonMobil submitted a proposal to the Department asking for permission to discontinue its bottled water delivery program. Currently, there are 130 properties receiving bottled water. The proposal notes that all private supply well samples from properties receiving bottled water have met applicable State groundwater standards and action levels since 2011 with one exception, which continues to have MTBE detections above the State action level of 20 µg/L. However, this property has a POET system maintained by ExxonMobil that is removing the MTBE and other detected gasoline constituents to meet applicable standards and action levels.

Pursuant to the Consent Decree between the Department and ExxonMobil, the Department has completed its review and has approved ExxonMobil's proposal. Effective June 6, 2018, ExxonMobil was allowed to discontinue bottled water deliveries to all properties. ExxonMobil will contact individual property owners about the final delivery of bottled water, which will occur on, or about, July 2, 2018. In order to provide a smooth transition for property owners upon the conclusion of ExxonMobil's bottled water program, the Department will provide bottled water through the end of the year to those residents in the current bottled water program.

### **Proposed Modifications to Private Supply Well Sampling and POET Program**

On July 16, 2016, ExxonMobil submitted a proposal to the Department asking for permission to make certain changes to the private supply well sampling program. The current sampling program includes sampling of 258 private supply wells at various frequencies (i.e. semi-annual, quarterly, and monthly), and has been largely unchanged since the beginning of the remediation efforts. The proposed modifications included the reduction of sampling from 258 private supply wells to 38 private supply wells at various frequencies, and the removal or conveyance of 5 of the 14 POET systems maintained by ExxonMobil.

The original proposal and a revision received December 8, 2017, provided a rationale for the modifications to the sampling program. In general, the Department is in agreement with the private supply well sampling program proposed by ExxonMobil. The Department's review of the data took into consideration:

- Proximity of properties to the 2006 release area and areas of documented petroleum-related impacts (liquid, adsorbed, and dissolved phase hydrocarbons);
- Current gasoline constituent concentrations in private supply wells;
- Historical sampling results / trends; and
- Proximity of private supply wells to groundwater monitoring / recovery wells and remediation systems.

Pursuant to the Consent Decree between the Department and ExxonMobil, the Department has completed its review and effective June 6, 2018, approved ExxonMobil's proposal with the modification of adding an additional 11 private supply wells to ExxonMobil's proposed sampling program, for a total of 49 private supply wells in the sampling program. ExxonMobil will notify individual property owners of changes to their

sampling schedule (including no further sampling) and if a POET system is to be removed / conveyed to the property owner. For those properties that will no longer be sampled by ExxonMobil, the Department will contact you in September to arrange for its environmental contractor to sample your private supply well one additional time.

ExxonMobil will continue its overall remediation responsibilities in the community under the Department's direction and pursuant to the Consent Decree. The Department will continue oversight of cleanup activities and will require actions to ensure compliance with the groundwater standards and action levels for gasoline constituents.

The Department continues to make various reports with current data and maps available on the Department's website at [www.mde.maryland.gov](http://www.mde.maryland.gov) > Land > Oil Control > Remediation Sites. The ExxonMobil proposals discussed above and the Department's approval letters are also available on this webpage.

If you have any questions regarding the general management of this case, please contact Andrew Miller, Remediation Division Chief, at 410-537-3389 ([andrew.miller@maryland.gov](mailto:andrew.miller@maryland.gov)) or Ellen Jackson, Project Manager, at 410-537-3482 ([ellen.jackson@maryland.gov](mailto:ellen.jackson@maryland.gov)).

Sincerely,



Christopher H. Ralston, Manager  
Oil Control Program

CHR/nln

cc: Mr. Clarke Bozeman (ExxonMobil)  
Joseph Perez, Esquire (ExxonMobil Corp.)  
Mr. Mark Schaaf (Kleinfelder East, Inc.)  
Mr. Kevin Koepenick (Baltimore County DEPRM)  
Stephanie Cobb-Williams, Esquire (Deputy Counsel, Office of the Attorney General)  
Ms. Hilary Miller (Director, Land and Materials Administration)