



Maryland

Department of the Environment

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

Ben Grumbles, Secretary
Horacio Tablada, Deputy Secretary

December 2, 2020

CERTIFIED MAIL

RE: INFORMATIONAL NOTIFICATION LETTER
Case No. 2021-0221-HA
High's #86
3711 Federal Hill Road, Jarrettsville
Harford County, Maryland
Facility I.D. No. 798

Dear Resident or Property Owner:

This letter is provided in compliance with Section 4-411.2 of the Environment Article, Annotated Code of Maryland. The intent of this letter is to notify you that certain petroleum-related compounds have been detected in a groundwater monitoring well (MW) sample at a concentration exceeding the statutory notification level at the above-referenced property owned and operated by High's of Baltimore, LLC (High's). As a property owner within a 0.5-mile radius of the subject property (see enclosed map), notification is required to be submitted to you to provide information about the detection at the referenced service station.

On November 9, 2020, MDE received a groundwater sampling report for routine annual sampling conducted by High's on October 9, 2020. The report showed that petroleum-related compounds were detected in the groundwater sample collected from one of three monitoring wells located on the property, MW-4. The petroleum-related compound benzene was detected at a concentration of 139 parts per billion (ppb), which exceeds the notification standard of 5 ppb. The petroleum-related compound methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE) was detected at a concentration of 452 ppb, which exceeds the notification standard of 20 ppb. The other on-site monitoring wells (MW-1 and MW-3) were non-detect for petroleum-related compounds, and the on-site drinking water supply well results have been non-detect for petroleum constituents from 2011 to the present.

Based on these groundwater sampling results, MDE's Oil Control Program (OCP) opened a groundwater investigation case for the High's station. In cooperation with the OCP, High's collected confirmation samples from groundwater monitoring well MW-4 on November 19 and 20, 2020. Results from the original and confirmation samples for MW-4 are summarized in the following table.

MW-4 Sample Results

Sample Date	Benzene	MTBE
10/09/2020 ¹	139	452
11/19/2020 ²	ND	ND
11/20/2020 ¹	ND	34.5
11/20/2020 ²	ND	6.95

Notes:

1. Sample collected immediately after purging the well of groundwater.
2. Sample collected after purging but allowing groundwater in the well to recharge to the pre-sampling level.

All results are reported in parts per billion.

ND – Result not detected above method detection limit.

The petroleum underground storage tank (UST) systems were tested for tightness on November 19, 2020, and found to be tight. Based upon the sampling results summarized above and the UST system testing, **there is no evidence of a current or ongoing discharge** from the UST systems.

MDE has informed the Harford County Health Department (HCHD) of the petroleum detections and of the open investigation. MDE is working with the HCHD to evaluate risks associated with the detections. High's will continue to monitor the groundwater as directed by MDE.

If your property is served by a private supply well, MDE understands that you may have concerns about potential impacts to your well. If you notice a change in the taste or odor of your well water or you wish to have your well tested for petroleum-related compounds, you may contact MDE to arrange for a test. Alternatively, you may elect to have your well water tested by a private laboratory. For your convenience, enclosed is a list of private laboratories that can assist you should you decide to have your well water tested privately. The recommended test to request is U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Method 524.2 for full-suite volatile organic compounds (VOCs), including fuel oxygenates and naphthalene. Samples should be collected by a certified sampler prior to the water passing through any treatment device.

The fact sheet and other documents related to the investigation will be posted to the OCP Remediation Sites webpage:

mde.maryland.gov/programs/LAND/OilControl/Pages/remediationsites.aspx.

Informational Notification Letter

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If you have any questions, please contact the case manager, Ms. Lindley Campbell, at 410-537-3387, or lindley.campbell1@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,



Christopher H. Ralston, Program Manager
Oil Control Program

Enclosures: Map
Fact Sheet
Testing Laboratory List

cc: Mr. Herb Meade, Environmental Director, High's of Baltimore, LLC
Mr. John Resline, Acting Environmental Health Director, Harford County Health
Department
Mr. Andrew B. Miller, Chief, Remediation Division, Oil Control Program
Ms. Kaley Laleker, Director, Land and Materials Administration