



COMMUNITY UPDATE

AMERICAN PLATING EMERGENCY REMOVAL SITE



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 3

June 09, 2016

EPA Responds To Request For Assistance

The American Plating site located at 4000 – 4008 E. Monument Street, Baltimore, MD is a former electroplating facility. On April 14, 2016, representatives of the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) conducted an inspection of the facility. Based on the conditions observed during that inspection, MDE asked for assistance from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). On May 3, 2016, an EPA On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) inspected the facility with inspectors from the Baltimore City Housing Department. On May 18, 2016, the OSC returned to the Site to conduct sampling of the materials in the building. The Baltimore City Housing Department inspectors were there, along with members of the Baltimore City Fire Department. After the inspection of the building and its contents, the City Housing Department posted a Condemnation Order on the building.

What Was Found?

Last Month, EPA, MDE and City Housing Inspectors conducted a site inspection and found the building to be in very poor condition with leaking roofs, sagging roof beams and no electricity in some areas. The building is housing a multitude of hazardous chemicals, including, but not limited to, nitric and hydrochloric acids, several cyanide compounds, numerous small bottles of chemicals and more than 50 drums containing various cyanide compounds and electroplating chemicals. There are several electroplating lines in place with vats still containing liquids.

What Are The Next Steps?

The EPA is working with the Baltimore City Fire Department, State and local agencies to address the safe removal of the hazardous chemicals. EPA is sampling the chemicals for positive identification and identifying their different hazardous categorizations. Once complete, the EPA will begin sorting and staging the chemicals for safe removal from the site.

Have Questions or Concerns?

If you have any comments, questions or concerns that you would like addressed, please contact either the Community Involvement Coordinator or On Scene Coordinator at the information provided below.

CONTACTS

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