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Since the discovery of contaminated materials in soil in the Middle River in the late 1990s, Lockheed Martin has systematically investigated environmental conditions at the Middle River Complex, collecting samples to identify the location and extent of any contamination resulting from historical manufacturing operations at the site.

Over 5,100 samples collected from more than 1,200 locations of contamination in the soil. Using this information, Lockheed Martin developed plans for cleaning up the

contaminants. These plans were presented to Baltimore County leaders and the public, and to the Maryland Department of the Environment for approval. Once all approvals and permits were received by Lockheed Martin, cleanup of the soil began in early May 2015 and continued into Spring 2016. "No Further Action" letters and associated covenants were received from Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) in October 2017,

Soil was cleaned up by tax block designation in blocks lying to the west and south of the Middle River Complex

operating factory—Blocks H, G, F, D and D Panhandle. Block E will be cleaned up in a separate project at a later date. Blocks A and B were addressed previously. The work was especially important because portions of the Complex lie within the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Buffer and Cow Pen Creek and Dark Head Cove border the blocks.

Each block presented its own cleanup challenges; here are some of the highlights of the work:

- Block H is primarily an active parking lot, which required excavation while it was in use by employees at the Middle River Complex.
- In Block G, soil was removed in seven areas in a former parking lot. An abandoned underground storage tank was located and removed from another area. An extensive search for electric transformers rumored to be buried in the block turned up only associated remnants; very small quantities of soil impacted by polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) were found. A silt curtain was installed at the edge of Cow Pen Creek to prevent sediment from entering the creek. Excavations along the shoreline, which turned up large quantities of rubble and debris, most likely from the foundation of a former building. Removal of other creek bank debris was delayed until the cleanup of sediments in Cow Pen Creek in 2017-18, when access was easier.

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