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## **Defense Supply Point Property Cleared for Continued Use**

Another local brownfield has been investigated and remediated through Ohio EPA's Voluntary Action Program (VAP), thanks to the voluntary efforts of the Greater Cincinnati Asset Terminal 3.

Ohio EPA has issued a covenant not to sue for the approximately 65-acre property located at 4820 River Road, Cincinnati.

A site investigation of the property identified issues leftover from when the U.S. Department of Defense operated a bulk fuel terminal at the site. Cleanup addressed contamination left over in tanks that historically contained leaded aviation gasoline. The tanks were emptied, cleaned and purged with nitrogen. The property currently operates as Bench Benchmark River and Rail Terminals.

Issuance of the covenant completes the volunteer's participation in the VAP. By entering the VAP, the volunteer assumed responsibility for remediating the property. Following standards developed by Ohio EPA, the company hired a certified environmental professional to assess the site, identify any areas of concern and remediate any contamination on the property to a level that allows for commercial and industrial reuse.

Working with an Ohio EPA-certified professional, the volunteer identified areas where chemicals of concerns, volatile organic chemicals, semivolatile organic compounds, certain metals and polyaromatic hydrocarbons had contaminated the soil. However, these are at levels deemed to be acceptable for commercial or industrial property uses. In addition, restrictions were placed on when ground water may be extracted from the property.

A covenant not to sue protects the property's owners or operators and future owners from being legally responsible to the State of Ohio for further environmental investigation and remediation. This protection applies only when the property is used and maintained in accordance with the terms and conditions of the covenant.

In the 17 years since Ohio EPA issued the first covenant under VAP, nearly 7,000 acres of blighted land have been revitalized at more than 350 sites across the state.

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