

## RTN Environmental Frequently Asked Questions (Last Updated 10-3-24)

Q1. The deeds of the RTN property from Graham Holdings Company (formerly The Washington Post Company) include language referencing actual or alleged contamination on the property. Does this language mean that there are hazardous materials on the property and that Graham Holdings Company is responsible for remediation of such hazardous materials?

A.1. The language in the deed is common environmental release language whereby the owner has released any claims it has against Graham Holdings Company for the actual or alleged environmental conditions. The language does not obligate Graham Holdings to remediate. Past sampling on the property has identified contamination which Rooney has acknowledged is present on numerous occasions and of which the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (“VDEQ”) and the City of Alexandria are aware from the participation of the site in the Virginia Voluntary Remediation Program (“VRP”) and Petroleum Program.

Q.2 Can redevelopment of the property be completed in a safe manner?

A.2. Yes. Contaminated sites are redeveloped in the City and across the Commonwealth regularly in a safe manner in compliance with law. As presented in the Community Meeting #3 on September 24, 2024, a health and safety plan (“HSP”) will be developed as required by the VRP covenants for protection of construction worker health and safety. The HSP will also provide for perimeter air monitoring to identify any concerns that may arise and will include designated response actions such as enhanced dust control. Excavated soil will be classified, handled, transported and disposed of offsite in compliance with law. Contaminated groundwater encountered in dewatering on the east parcel will be properly treated and discharged in compliance with law. Groundwater is not expected to be encountered in the construction on the west parcel as excavation on the west parcel will be limited.

Q.3 Is there a clay cap on the RTN site?

A.3 No. This has been confirmed by the borings advanced on the RTN site. Historic documentation indicates that the clay cap was required under the townhouses on the Tobacco Quay property to the west of the RTN site due to arsenic contamination.

Q.4 Is the RTN site a Superfund site?

A.4 No. As reported by the *Alexandria Times* on February 28, 2024, Julia Raimondi, communications coordinator for DEQ, said in an email: “The RTN site is not, nor has ever been, a Superfund site. There are no Superfund sites in Alexandria.” The description of the RTN site as a Superfund site was misreported on *Homefacts*, a non-governmental website.

Q.5 Can the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) require barging of contaminated soil from the RTN site?

A.5 No. The USACE does not have jurisdiction over the site to require barging of contaminated soil. Soil will be removed in accordance with DEQ and City requirements.