

## NOTICE OF 30-DAY PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD Ashley Landing Shopping Center Charleston, South Carolina

SCDES (the South Carolina Department of Environmental Services) is accepting public comments on a proposed Voluntary Cleanup Contract through December 10, 2024.

The Voluntary Cleanup Contract, 24-7844-NRP, will affect approximately 29.98 acres located at 1301, 1305, 1309, 1313, 1319, 1401 Sam Rittenberg Boulevard, 1 Sumar Street, and 1503 Old Towne Road, Charleston, South Carolina. The property is further identified by Charleston County tax map serial numbers 352-11-00-099, 352-11-00-101, 352-11-00-102, and 352-11-00-103. A company known as Ashley Landing (Edens), LLC (Edens), wants to acquire the property and intends to develop the property for mixed use.

A gas station and an auto repair business formerly operated on the property. The past use of the property may have caused environmental pollution on the property.

SCDES uses Voluntary Cleanup Contracts to encourage productive reuse of Brownfield sites. If this Voluntary Cleanup Contract is implemented, SCDES will allow Edens to acquire the property as a "Brownfields Site" because of the potential for environmental pollution from past activity on the property.

SCDES will not hold Edens responsible for pre-existing pollution in exchange for doing work under the Voluntary Cleanup Contract. Under the proposed contract, Edens will test soil and groundwater on the property. If significant contamination is found, Edens will be required to take steps to protect human health and the environment. Edens did not create the pollution, but will control it to keep the property safe for re-use. Under State law, Edens will not be responsible if anyone has been affected by the contamination. The responsibility of former owners or operators of the property is not reduced by this contract.

The proposed contract is available at <u>https://des.sc.gov/PublicNotices</u> . Printed copies may be obtained from the SCDES Freedom of Information Office at (803) 898-3882.

The public may provide written, email, or telephone comments on the proposed contract through December 10, 2024. Questions or comments may be directed to Sophia Owens, Project Manager, by e-mail at Sophia.Owens@des.sc.gov telephone (803) 898-0932, or TOLL-FREE at (866) 576-3432. Written comments should be directed to Sophia Owens at SCDES, 2600 Bull Street, Columbia, SC 29201.