



Delaware's Fumigation Experience

- Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control
- Division of Air Quality
- Angela Marconi, P.E.



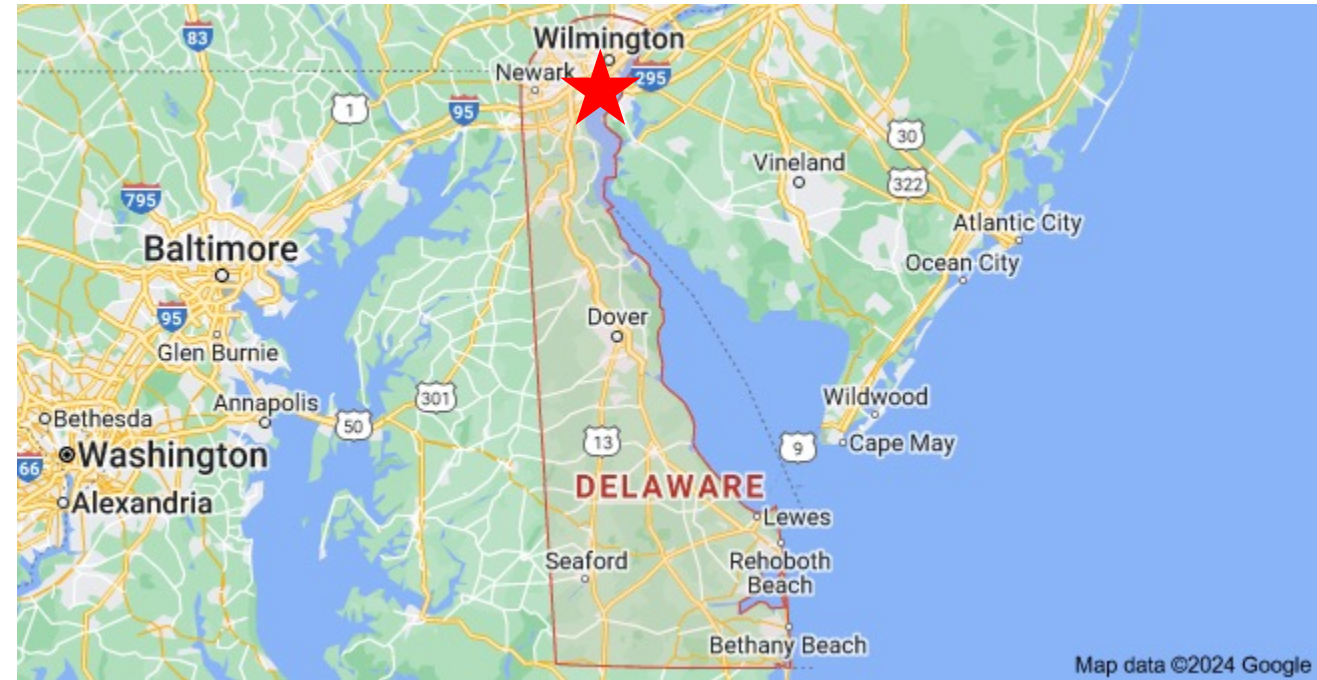
Overview

- Fumigation of Chilean grape imports occurs at the Port of Wilmington.
- This accounts for more than 98% of our fumigation.
- It is a “condition of entry”.

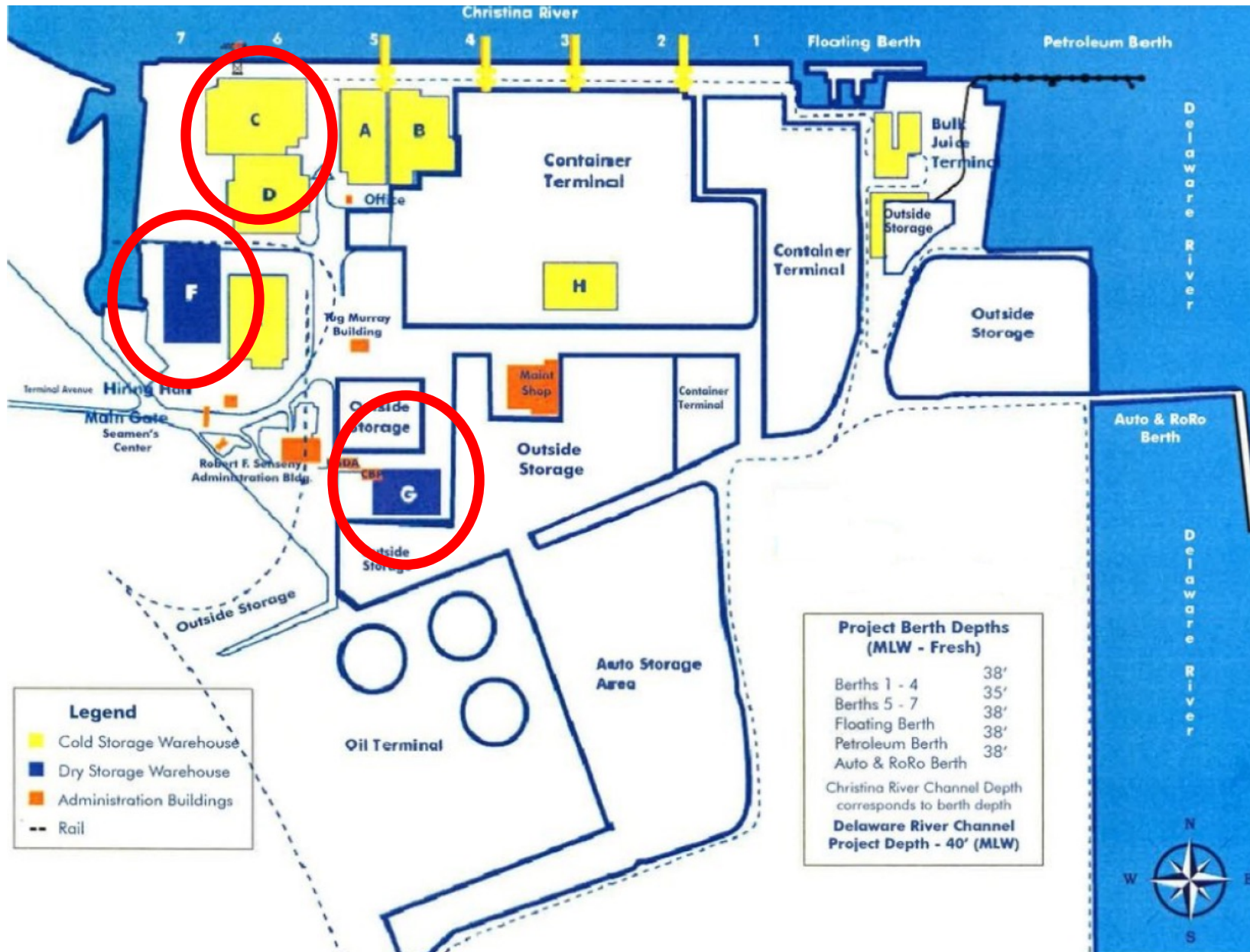


- The fumigant is methyl bromide.
- Incomplete permit applications have been submitted.
- No permit has been issued.

Locations







Timeline

- EPA Mid-Atlantic Region issued a 114 Request for Information, July 19, 2010.
- Diamond State Port Corporation (port operator at the time) responded, October 2010.
- NACAA letter to EPA March 21, 2016.
- Secretary's Orders outline requirements, 2012; 2021; 2022; 2023.
- Conversations with EPA HQ, 2022; 2023.
- U.S. Department of Ag proposed a "systems approach," October 2022.



Permitting Challenges

- Existing operation.
- Above major source threshold.
- No national framework/policy/regulations.
- Lack of proven treatment technology for methyl bromide at this scale.
- Changes in port operators.
- Changes in fumigation company.
- Lack of records (due to lack of permitting).
- Reluctance from fumigation companies to openly share information.

Permitting Challenges

ENVIRONMENTAL
SAFETY

FOOD SAFETY



- Emissions
- Pest Infestation
- Human Safety
- Human Exposure

ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT

Current Strategy

- MINIMIZE HARM.
- Drager tube air testing for each event (location between residences and operation).
- Restrict operation to existing locations.
- Restrict commodities.
- Restrict to nighttime operations.
- Milestones to achieve compliance.
- Stay Informed.
 - APHIS Stakeholder Registry [USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service \(govdelivery.com\)](https://govdelivery.com)
 - MBR Conference <https://mbao.org/>



Future?

- Permit!
- Alternate chemicals?
- Systems approach (minimize chemical treatments)?
- “Clean Ports” are not possible with current fumigation practices.

Questions?

Thank you!

