NYC 9/11 Public Portal Document

December 30, 2001

Mr. Niles Miller
Dormitory Authority State of New York
One Penn Plaza, 52nd Floor
New York, NY 10119

Subject: **Environmental Testing (December 15, 17, 19 & 20, 2001)**
Borough of Manhattan Community College (BMCC)
Trailers, North Building & South Building
199 Chambers Street, New York, NY
PSI Project Number: 622-1A139

Dear Mr. Miller:

At the request of the Dormitory Authority State of New York, Professional Service Industries, Inc. (PSI) has been directed to perform periodic environmental testing at the Borough of Manhattan Community College. The first round of testing was performed on September 28 and September 29, 2001. Results of all air and surface testing for asbestos, lead, silica and dust at the time were below the established regulatory or guideline levels for the selected analyte.

Due to accessibility issues PSI has been unable to return to the facility for subsequent testing until December 15, 2001. Frequent periodic testing will be performed on the site until further notice. PSI is working with BMCC facilities personnel to ensure full access to the site.

Monitoring performed on 12/15, 12/17, 12/19 and 12/20 includes testing for airborne asbestos, airborne silica, respirable dust, selected airborne metals and total Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs). Testing results follow.

Monitoring Asbestos in Air

PSI collected 8 representative air samples from the temporary Trailers located at the West Side Highway location across from the BMCC main buildings. In addition, 1 sample was collected from within the Gymnasium (North Building) and 1 sample from within Theater 1 (South Building), as these areas were subject to use by emergency/rescue workers. Samples were collected and analyzed by Transmission Electron Microscopy in accordance with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) 40 CFR Part 763 Final Rule Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA). AHERA regulations establish the post abatement air clearance criteria for asbestos abatement projects performed within schools (Grades K-12). The AHERA post asbestos abatement clearance criteria is defined as an airborne asbestos fiber concentration less than 70 structures per millimeter squared (<70 s/mm^2). The samples collected are not intended to be post abatement clearance samples, and the results have been compared to the established AHERA criteria for the purposes of referencing an established regulatory limit.

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Table 2 Lead Wipe Sampling

Sample No.	Location	Results – Lead Concentration
Pb-01	Field Blank prior	<10.0 ug/wipe
Pb-02	Floor – Hallway by Rm. N736	<10.0 ug/ft^2
Pb-03	Floor-Rm. N635 North Center	<10.0 ug/ft^2
Pb-04	Floor-Hallway by Rm. N501	<10.0 ug/ft^2
Pb-05	Floor-Lobby by Rm. N404	<10.0 ug/ft^2
Pb-06	Floor-Across from Rm. N301	<10.0 ug/ft^2
Pb-07	Floor-Passageway between N & S bldgs.	<10.0 ug/ft^2
Pb-08	Floor-Lobby by Rm. N212	<10.0 ug/ft^2
Pb-09	Floor-Gym by NW entrance	<10.0 ug/ft^2
Pb-10	Floor-2nd Flr. Lobby NW entrance	<10.0 ug/ft^2
Pb-11	Floor-1st Flr. By West entrance	<10.0 ug/ft^2
Pb-12	Field Blank after	<10.0 ug/wipe
Pb-13	Field Blank prior	<10.0 ug/wipe
Pb-14	Floor-Hallway by Rm. S736A	<10.0 ug/ft^2
Pb-15	Floor-Room S602	<10.0 ug/ft^2
Pb-16	Floor-5th Flr. Escalator landing	<10.0 ug/ft^2
Pb-17	Floor-4th Flr. Entrance to Library	<10.0 ug/ft^2
Pb-18	Floor-Hallway by Rm. S368	<10.0 ug/ft^2
Pb-19	Floor-Hallway by Rm. S206A	<10.0 ug/ft^2
Pb-20	Floor-2nd Flr. Cafeteria entrance	<10.0 ug/ft^2
Pb-21	Floor-Hallway by Rm. S165	<10.0 ug/ft^2
Pb-22	Field Blank after	<10.0 ug/wipe

Air Sampling for Nuisance Dust & Silica

PSI collected 2 representative air samples from each odd numbered floor of the North and South Buildings on December 20th, 2001. Samples were collected from common corridors, escalators, the Gymnasium and Theater 3. A total of 16 samples were collected and analyzed by National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Method 7500 to determine ambient or background airborne nuisance dust and respirable silica concentrations. Nuisance dust concentrations ranged from 0.0578 mg/m^3 to 0.6778 mg/m^3 which are below the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) limit of 5 mg/m^3 and the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH) limit of 3 mg/m^3. Respirable silica was detected in two (2) samples and not detected in fourteen (14) samples. Concentrations in the two samples detected were 0.0213 mg/m^3 and 0.0276 mg/m^3, which are below the NIOSH limit of 0.05 mg/m^3 and the ACGIH limit of 0.1 mg/m^3. Refer to the attached laboratory analysis conducted by EMSL Laboratories for the analytical results presented in Appendix C.

Sampling for Airborne Metals

Concern regarding the cutting and transport of WTC structural members adjacent to the College prompted investigation for potential airborne metals. Air samples were collected on December 15th from each floor in the North Building and South Building and from eight (8) Trailers. A total of 23 samples were collected and analyzed by NIOSH Method 7300 to determine ambient

or background levels of airborne lead, chromium, arsenic and iron concentrations. All samples indicated levels below the NIOSH or ACGIH limits established for airborne concentrations of these metals. Refer to the attached American Analytical Laboratories analysis for results presented in Appendix D.

Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC)

Measurement of total VOC's is used to determine general quality of air associated with the level of volatile organic compounds. Samples for volatile organic compounds were collected with a MINIRAE 2000, direct reading photoionization detector on December 15th. Samples were collected within the North Building, the South Building and the Trailers. Outside air background samples were also collected. The Indoor Air Quality Association (Standard IAQA #95-1) recommends levels be at or below 3.0 ppm for acceptable indoor air quality. The data indicated that total VOC's were not detected within the areas sampled. Please refer to Table 3 for measured results. The analytical results of VOC testing are presented in Table 3 below.

Table 3 VOC Air Sampling

Sample No.	Location	VOC ppm
V-01	7th Floor North Room 779	0.0
V-02	6th Floor North Hallway by Room 635	0.0
V-03	5th Floor North Hallway by Room 513	0.0
V-04	4th Floor North Room 416	0.0
V-05	3rd Floor North Elevator Lobby #1	0.0
V-06	2nd Floor North Room 212	0.0
V-07	Basement North Hallway by Room 102	0.0
V-08	Outside West Loading Dock	0.0
V-09	7th Floor South Stairs #4	0.0
V-10	6th Floor South Room 631	0.0
V-11	5th Floor South Room 500-505 LRC	0.0
V-12	4th Floor South Room 400 Library	0.0
V-13	3rd Floor South Hallway by Room 368	0.0
V-14	2nd Floor South Cyber Café II	0.0
V-15	Basement South Room 172	0.0
V-16	Outside Harrison Street by North Stairs	0.0
V-17	Trailer 111	0.0
V-18	Trailer 109	0.0
V-19	Trailer 107	0.0
V-20	Outside Trailer 107	0.0
V-21	Trailer 105	0.0
V-22	Trailer 103	0.0
V-23	Trailer 101	0.0
V-24	Trailer Harrison Street East	0.0
V-25	Trailer Harrison Street West	0.0