

Environmental Compliance Specialist
NEW YORK METRO AREA OPERATIONS SUPPORT



March 7, 2002

R. Radhakrishnan, P.E.
Director
Asbestos Control Program
NY City Department of Environmental Protection
59-17 Junction Boulevard
Corona NY 11368-5107

**SUBJECT: Peck Slip Post Office
1-19 Peck Slip
NY NY 10038**

Dear Sir/Madam:

Pursuant to your request dated February 15, 2002, I am enclosing two reports from our consultant URS Corporation regarding the cleanup activities at the above referenced facility.

- Disaster Response and Recovery
Lower Manhattan
Unoccupied Buildings- Cleaning and Air Monitoring
Peck Slip Station
- Peck Slip Station
4th Floor Asbestos Abatement

Should you need additional information, please feel free to contact me at 212-330-3107.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nicholas DeCarlo".

Nicholas DeCarlo, CHMM, CPEA, REM
Environmental Compliance Specialist

Enclosures

cc: Julia Scotton, Esq., Deputy Managing Counsel
NYMA Law Department

421 8th AVE. ROOM 5013
NEW YORK NY 10199-9800
TEL: 212.330.3107



October 3, 2001

Mr. Nicholas DeCarlo, CHMM, CPEA
Environmental Compliance Specialist
New York Metro Area
United States Postal Service
James A. Farley Building
421 8th Avenue, Room 5013
New York, New York 10199-9800

Re: Disaster Response and Recovery
Lower Manhattan, New York
Unoccupied Buildings – Cleaning and Air Monitoring
Peck Slip Station
URS Project No. 89-FUSPS035.02

Dear Mr. DeCarlo:

URS Corporation (URS) was retained by the United States Postal Service (USPS) to provide disaster response and recovery services with regard to several USPS facilities in lower Manhattan following the September 11, 2001 disaster at the World Trade Center. URS was tasked with the following:

- Subcontractor coordination for operations and maintenance (O&M) level clean up of standing dust on facility surfaces. This would consist of HEPA-vacuuming and wet-wiping of readily accessible horizontal and vertical surfaces (10 feet and below); arranging for the removal/replacement of facility HVAC filters; and, if needed, the repair or removal of any damaged asbestos-containing materials (ACM);
- Non-aggressive indoor air sampling following the aforementioned clean up with air samples analyzed for asbestos (via transmission electron microscopy [TEM]), lead, silica, and nuisance dust. The number of samples to be collected in each facility would be determined by the functional work floor square footage, with samples analyzed on an expedited basis;
- Visual evaluation of any existing ACM to determine if any repair/removal would be necessary during the clean up phase.

URS subcontracted Comprehensive Environmental Solutions (CES) to perform the required O&M clean up in the facility. The clean up at Peck Slip Station took place on September 16 and 19, 2001. Minor areas of damaged ACM were noted on the 4th floor of Peck Slip Station and a subsequent asbestos abatement occurred on September 19, 2001. That abatement is detailed in a separate letter report.

Filters for the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system at Peck Slip Station were changed following completion of the O&M cleaning operation.

URS Corporation
200 Orchard Ridge Drive, Suite 101
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Mr. Nick DeCarlo, CHMM, CPEA
Disaster Response and Recovery
Peck Slip Station
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Following the O&M clean up, URS collected air samples on each floor of the facility for subsequent analysis for asbestos, lead, silica, and nuisance dust. The objective of the monitoring program was to determine if there were any exceedances of the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Permissible Exposure Limits (PEL) for airborne asbestos, lead, silica, or nuisance dust.

All air sampling pumps were calibrated before and after each use. The average flow rate and total sample time for each sample were used to calculate the total volume of the air passing through the filter media, and were used in the subsequent concentration calculations.

Asbestos

Airborne asbestos samples were collected throughout the facility in accordance with National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Method 7402. The samples were analyzed by Scientific Laboratories (SciLab). SciLab is certified under the New York State Environmental Laboratory Approval Program (ELAP) to conduct airborne asbestos analysis by TEM. All airborne asbestos samples were well below the post-abatement action level of 0.01 asbestos structures per cubic centimeter of air sampled (s/cc). See Attachment A for the field and laboratory report.

Lead

NIOSH Method 7082 was used by URS for the collection and analysis of airborne lead samples. This method uses atomic absorption spectrophotometry (AAS) to identify airborne lead that had been collected on the sample filter. Lead in air samples were analyzed by ATC Associates in New York City, an American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA)-accredited laboratory. The lead in air concentrations ranged from <1.7 to 7.8 micrograms per cubic centimeter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$), which is well below the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Action Level of $30 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ and Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL) of $50 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ of air sampled. See Attachment B for the field data and laboratory report.

Silica and Nuisance Dust

URS performed air monitoring for silica and nuisance dust based on NIOSH Method 7500. Silica/nuisance dust samples were analyzed by EMSL Analytical of Westmont, New Jersey, an AIHA-accredited laboratory. Total silica concentration readings were less than the detection limit of the analytical method, thus indicating that silica was not detected. Thus, the OSHA PEL for total silica dust was not approached or exceeded. Total nuisance dust ranged from 0.0000 to $0.3556 \text{ mg}/\text{m}^3$, well below the OSHA PEL of $5 \text{ mg}/\text{m}^3$. See Attachment C for the field data and laboratory report.



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Conclusions

Air sampling conducted following clean up of standing dust in the Peck Slip Station documented that airborne asbestos, lead, silica, and nuisance dust levels were well below the OSHA PELs. Based on these data, the *Peck Slip Station is considered safe for re-occupancy and a return to normal operations.*

Minor areas of damaged ACM were noted on the 4th floor of Peck Slip Station and a subsequent asbestos abatement occurred on September 19, 2001. That abatement is detailed in a separate letter report.

If you should have any questions regarding the information presented herein, please do not hesitate to contact Catherine Carr Clinch at 301-670-3334 or Doug Mueller at 215-542-3800.

Sincerely,
URS Corporation

 for

M. Douglas Mueller, CIH
Project Industrial Hygienist



Catherine Carr Clinch
Project Director

cc: R. Paprocki (USPS)
Christopher Gerber (URS)