



**Department of
Environmental
Protection**

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To: Building Owners

From: R. Radhakrishnan, P.E.

Date: September 26, 2001

Subject: Clean-up of Debris inside Buildings

R. Radhakrishnan

Building owners or their representatives instituting clean-up activities of areas affected by the World Trade Center attack should follow these procedures:

1. Minimal dust accumulations (light coating) can be cleaned using wet methods and/or vacuums equipped with HEPA filters.
2. HVAC-system filters should be replaced prior to re-occupancy.
3. If you are concerned that debris may contain asbestos, accumulations of dust that include pieces of debris can be sampled by a NYC- DEP certified investigator or NYS- DOL inspector to determine whether the material is asbestos-containing material (ACM). The USEPA has studied this issue in numerous buildings in and around the WTC and reported that the potential presence of ACM in dust and debris is minimal. Wipe sampling and/or micro-vacuum sampling are not recognized methods for asbestos sampling and should not be used. Bulk sample analysis (PLM) must be performed by laboratories with ELAP accreditation.
4. Only individuals certified by the NYC-DEP as asbestos handlers can handle dust and debris accumulations identified to be ACM or asbestos-contaminated objects. ACM is any material containing more than one percent asbestos. All work shall be performed in accordance with Title 15, Chapter 1 of the Rules of the City of New York.
5. Emergency telephone notification must be provided to the Department. The telephone notification must include the name affiliation, and telephone number of the caller; the exact location including street address, floor, and surface types to be cleaned; the name, address, and telephone number of the NYS DOL licensed asbestos contractor handling the material; and the starting date. The Asbestos and Lead Control Program (ALCP) may be reached via (718) DEP-HELP (24 hrs/7days).
6. A scope-of-work including the information outlined in number 3 above and the procedures to be employed should be faxed to the ALCP at fax number (718) 595-3744. The Department will review plans, provide assistance, and offer recommendations. Our staff will be available to



answer your questions from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. seven days per week. A field office has been set up to expedite on-site assistance if necessary.

7. Remote showering units shall be acceptable. The area where the installation is proposed shall be pre-cleaned using wet wiping and/or HEPA vacuuming procedures. The location of the unit shall be specified in the scope of work submitted to the DEP. The unit should be set up so as to avoid tracking of materials into already cleaned areas.
8. Isolation barriers shall be installed between unaffected areas and areas to be cleaned.
9. A third party, who is independent of the asbestos abatement contractor, must perform air sampling and analysis. Any person(s) who conducts sampling must possess a valid NYS Asbestos Project Air Sampling Technician Certificate. Air sampling must be performed in accordance with the requirements set forth in Title 15, Chapter 1 of the Rules of the City of New York.
10. An "Asbestos Inspection Report" form, ACP 7, shall be submitted directly to the DEP within one-week. The ACP 7 must list the emergency clean up quantities in item 30.
11. Please note, the disturbance/ removal of in place material in the work place is not permitted during clean-up activities unless the Department specifically determines the need to abate damaged in place as part of the clean up. The emergency phase of the project must be completed prior to in place ACM abatement.

If you have any questions or require clarification, please do not hesitate to call the Department at (718) DEP-HELP (24 hrs/7days).