



**Department of
Environmental
Protection**

59-17 Junction Boulevard
Flushing, New York
11373-5108

**Christopher O. Ward
Commissioner**

March 3, 2003

Ms. Kathleen Grimm
Deputy Chancellor
New York City Department of Education
The Tweed Courthouse
New York, New York 10007

Dear Deputy Chancellor Grimm:

After consulting with the Department of Education and reviewing the letters of support from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the New York City Department of Health (NYCDOH), please be advised that we acquiesce to their recommendations regarding the carpet removal at New York City Department of Education schools impacted by the collapse of the World Trade Center.

USEPA and the NYCDOH have stated that the removal of carpet is a reasonable and proper action to eliminate concerns regarding potential contaminants in this porous material. The DEP concurs with this assessment.

According to our information, the environmental air sampling results at these schools indicated sampling and analysis was in accordance with the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) requirements. Specifically, the results indicate the clearance and re-occupancy criteria set forth in AHERA (70 s/mm²) were met.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (718) 595-3721.

**Robert C. Avaltroni
Deputy Commissioner**

**Bureau of
Environmental
Compliance**

Tel (718) 595-4418
Fax (718) 595-4422

Sincerely,



Robert C. Avaltroni
Deputy Commissioner



(718) DEP-HELP



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Robert C. Avaltroni
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**Christopher O. Ward
Commissioner**

October 11, 2002

Ms. Kathleen Grimm
Deputy Chancellor, Finance & Administration
New York City Department of Education
52 Chambers Street
New York, New York 10007

Dear Ms. Grimm:

The New York City Department of Environmental Protection has reviewed the asbestos air sampling reports prepared by Taylor Environmental Group, Inc.

The results indicated sampling and analysis was in accordance with the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) requirements. According to the submitted reports, sampling was performed in the auditorium, library, basement, elevators, 1st floor and on the 3rd through 10th floors.

The results indicate the clearance and re-occupancy criteria set forth in AHERA (70 s/mm²) were met.

Micro-vacuum sampling is not a recognized method for asbestos sampling. Further, the New York State Department of Health has not approved the analytical method for the micro-vacuuming samples.

We acquiesce to the Department of Health's recommendations that the Department of Education's carpet-removal protocols would be sufficiently protective of the health of students, teachers, and staff within the school such that the removal process itself would not create a risk to health.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Radhakrishnan".

R. Radhakrishnan
Director
Asbestos Control Program



(718) DEP-HELP