

Avaltroni, Robert

From: Gair, Brad [Brad.Gair@fema.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, August 14, 2002 4:01 PM
To: 'Avaltroni, Robert'
Subject: RE: fact sheets for cleanup program

Bob,

FYI

C.B. 1 grills E.P.A. over W.T.C. cleanup

Publication: Downtown Express

By: Sascha Brodsky

Date: August 11, 2002

A presentation last week on the Environmental Protection Agency's ongoing cleanup efforts near ground zero left some observers unsatisfied.

An E.P.A. representative fielded questions at a Community Board 1 Quality of Life Committee meeting July 29 about plans to clean the apartment of any resident who wants it below Canal St.

The agency's director of indoor cleanup, Ray Basso, told residents and committee members that work was "going smoothly."

But former Councilmember Kathryn Freed was unsatisfied with the answer she received when she questioned Basso about the removal of dust from the facade of Independence Plaza North. Basso said that the city's Department of Environmental Protection is coordinating the dust removal and that the E.P.A. had little information about the situation.

"There is dust on the facade that still hasn't been tested since 9/11," Freed said. "They are passing the buck."

Board member Paul Sipos also complained that the presentation was "not responsive to the community."

Sudhir Jain, president of the World Trade Center Residents Coalition, complained at the meeting that the E.P.A.'s cleanup plan would only remove asbestos and not other possible contaminants. The E.P.A. has said that removing all of the dust should remove other contaminants but it is looking into the possibility of adding cleanup strategies that would address other contaminants besides asbestos.

Jain also said that the agency has done little to let the public know that the cleanup is available.

The committee passed a resolution that included calling on the agency to extend the boundary of the cleanup area beyond Canal St. and include businesses as well as residences. However, the resolution was tabled at C.B. 1's full board meeting July 30 because some members called it "too broad."

E.P.A. spokesperson Mary Mears said Monday that the agency hopes to begin cleaning apartments within four weeks. Officials have said previously that they are open to extending the boundary above Canal St.

The agency is finalizing the parameters of the work that will be released to the city's D.E.P.

"We are within days of finalizing the scope," Mears added.

After receiving the instructions from the E.P.A., the city will let out bids for about four contractors who will cover four quadrants making up areas of Lower Manhattan. Each contractor is expected to clean 80 apartments per day, Mears said.

In related news, the D.E.P. announced last week that inspectors have found minimal presence of asbestos and other contaminants from World Trade Center debris on the roofs and exteriors of buildings Downtown.

Under the Exterior Building Cleanup Program, building owners whose properties have been identified as having World Trade Center debris are eligible to have the debris removed by licensed asbestos contractors at no cost.

To date, more than 1,000 buildings Downtown have been inspected. Three quarters of the buildings inspected have shown no evidence of debris. Of those upon which debris has been identified, 81 buildings have been cleaned and an additional 56 buildings are either in the process of being cleaned or have been scheduled for future cleanup. For information about the Exterior Building Clean-Up Program call (718) DEP-HELP. For information on indoor cleanup call (877) 796-5471.

Downtown Workers

Publication: New York Times

~~By: Norma Ramos~~

Date: August 14, 2002

To the Editor:

Re "U.S. to Test for Contaminants in 250 Downtown Apartments" (news article, Aug. 7):

The Environmental Protection Agency's decision to address contamination resulting from the World Trade Center's collapse only in certain residential apartments is unacceptable. It continues the policy of leaving thousands of the area's office workers exposed and at risk.

Recently, the Sierra Club, at its own expense, had our office space, located six blocks east of the World Trade Center site, tested for mercury contamination. The tests concluded that our office does have residual contamination, and noted that the terrace adjacent to our windows still contains World Trade Center dust.

There is no rationale to protect one segment of an exposed population and leave another to fend for itself.

NORMA RAMOS

New York, Aug. 7, 2002

The writer, an environmental lawyer, is New York City senior regional representative, Sierra Club.

Brad Gair

FEMA

WTC Federal Recovery Office

(646) 746-1888 (office)

(917) 842-7947 (cell)

-----Original Message-----

From: Avaltroni, Robert [<mailto:avaltronir@dep.nyc.gov>]

Sent: Tuesday, August 06, 2002 15:56

To: 'brad.gair@fema.gov'

Cc: Ward, Chris

Subject: FW: fact sheets for cleanup program

<< File: WTC.C&T.wpd >> << File: wtc.CAHVAC.wpd >> << File: wtc.PC&T.wpd >>

Brad,

I wanted to share the fact sheets for the interior cleanup program with you.

As discussed, September 3 is the go date.

Regards,

Bob

—Original Message—

From: **Glisenan, Michael (ex)**
Sent: Monday, August 05, 2002 10:15 AM
To: Avaltroni, Robert
Subject: FW: fact sheets for cleanup program

<<WTC.C&T.wpd>> <<wtc.CAHVAC.wpd>> <<wtc.PC&T.wpd>>

—Original Message—

From: **Callahan.Kathy@epamail.epa.gov**
 <mailto:Callahan.Kathy@epamail.epa.gov>
 [mailto:Callahan.Kathy@epamail.epa.gov]
 <mailto:[mailto:Callahan.Kathy@epamail.epa.gov]>
Sent: Monday, August 05, 2002 7:44 AM
To: michaelgi@dep.nyc.gov <mailto:michaelgi@dep.nyc.gov>
Cc: basso.ray@epamail.epa.gov; <mailto:basso.ray@epamail.epa.gov>;
 laposta.dore@epamail.epa.gov <mailto:laposta.dore@epamail.epa.gov>
Subject: Fw: fact sheets for cleanup program

michael, this didn't seem to go through on saturday to you, at least i got an error message yesterday afternoon to that effect. so i am trying again. please forward to mark hoffer. and as i said below, if you have any questions, problems, i am here & can be tracked down, via beeper as needed. the correct beeper no. is 888-548-7957. thanks. touch base with you later. the access agreements should be to mark in about half an hour. you should have gotten the scopes of work on friday night from eric wilson.

kc
 Kathleen C. Callahan
 212-637-3116
 212-637-3115 (fax)

— Original Message —

From: **kathy Callahan**
To: michaelgi@dep.nyc.gov <mailto:michaelgi@dep.nyc.gov>
Cc: LaPosta.Dore@epamail.epa.gov <mailto:LaPosta.Dore@epamail.epa.gov>
 ; kohlenberg.beverly@epa.gov <mailto:kohlenberg.beverly@epa.gov>
Sent: Saturday, August 03, 2002 6:00 PM
Subject: fact sheets for cleanup program

hi michael,

i am attaching the fact sheets that mark hoffer needs to look at, prior to the bid process starting. can you please send them to him ASAP. i (or one of our attorneys) will be forwarding the access agreement forms first thing on monday as well. call if there are any questions or concerns. beep me if there isn't someone around to track me down. (dore is on vacation this week, fyi.) my beeper number is 888-5498-7957. i'll get back to you right away. this is my priority on monday. please send us copies of the bid documents when they are ready.

thanks. talk to you soon. kathy
(See attached file: WTC.C&T.wpd)
(See attached file: wtc.CAHVAC.wpd)
(See attached file: wtc.PC&T.wpd)

make a political contribution.

Cleanup bids for WTC-area apts.

The city is preparing to seek bids for the painstaking, expensive job of cleaning contaminants out of apartments around Ground Zero — a job that will begin next month and take a year, officials said yesterday.

Tens of thousands of homes surrounding the disaster site have received mailings notifying them free testing and cleanup of their apartments are available

So far, however, only 3,000 households have requested cleaning and testing. Another 1,000 have asked for testing alone.

The federal Environmental Protection Agency is running the massive cleanup of dust that could contain hazardous asbestos, dioxin and metals.

Contractors will use special vacuums to clean floors, walls, furniture and even books for tiny particles. Workers also will wipe down apartments by hand.

The total cleanup bill, to be footed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, is not yet clear. But the price tag for a single apartment is expected to range from \$3,000 to as much as \$8,000, officials said.

A hotline for people concerned about contamination, (877) 796-5471, is open until Sept. 3, but that deadline will likely be extended, officials said.

The EPA bowed to pressure from infuriated tenants around Ground Zero in May, promising to clean and test apartments for asbestos. The agency maintains there is no major health hazard in the area.

Celeste Katz

DAILY NEWS • Wednesday, August 7, 2002