

Fax:

Oct 17 2001 22:13 P.01

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 FROM: Paul Bennett
 RE: WTC Daily Report for 10/17/01
 DATE: Oct. 17, 2001

via FAX

Summary of outstanding activities for 10/17/01.

Stray Current Investigation

Update: Awaiting results. Sidewalk around Sampling Station was very hot. Notified ConEd. Awaiting report.

FEMA requests meeting regarding permits and the demolition of WTC

Update: Tranter called. He said he wasn't ready for the meeting. Will get back to me.

Robert Tranter, Regional Environmental Officer, FEMA, (646-745-1235, e-mail: robert.tranter@fema.gov) ...

Site Fence

Update: Expect to have a significant portion of the fence up on the east side by Sunday night.

Counter-terrorism Taskforce meeting.

Update: Any comments?

This is a meeting of the NY Metropolitan Counter-Terrorism Com. - Incident Response Sub-Committee.

Chief topics included:

- Discussion on the appropriateness of developing a First Responder Protocol.
- Discussion of draft Executive Order pertaining to Incident Command.
- Request to provide sub-committee lessons learned from WTC response - what worked and what didn't work.

Required follow-up:

- Review attached Executive Order - Comments due by COB on Tuesday 10/23/01.
- Provide sub-committee with lessons learned.

Health and Safety meeting

Quality of water to be / is being pumped from the WTC

Update: Nothing to report.

NYSDOH Jim Covey and NYSDEC questioned the quality of the water to be / is being pumped out from the basements of the WTC and from the PA tunnel and into the sewers. DEC has indicated that they are willing to take the lead on this issue (plan, protocol and ultimate disposal), but they need NYC to ask for such assistance. Diana / Al / Doug - How do you want me to handle? Please contact me.

EPA requested to vacuum streets as per Mike Gilsenen.

Update: EPA said they would take care of this.

EPA was requested to clean streets and sidewalks in the following areas:

South End Av, from Albany to Liberty;

Washington, from Rector St to Cedar St.;

Cedar St., from Washington to Greenwich;

Fulton, from Broadway to Church;

Thames, from Broadway to Greenwich.

Dust Control

Once again, it was reported that, due to the high winds this morning, dust was a problem.

Debris loads

Update: FDNY stated that a deluge system should be installed at the truck wash station or hot material should be placed on the side and allowed to cool before being loaded on to the trucks.

Commissioner's Order - Personal and vehicle washing +

Update: Any comments?

Attached for review and comment is a Health Commissioner's Order pertaining to personal hygiene and vehicle washing. Please get your comments to me by Wed at 5:00 PM.

Environmental Health and Safety Plan for Staten Island Landfill distributed.

Please let me know if you would like a copy.

OSHA sampling results distributed - attached.

Crane Inspection Report - attached

Manpower hours for EMRP on 10/17/01:

Paul Bennett	Pier 92	8:00 AM - 10:30 PM	14 ½ hrs
Frank Vazquez	Command Bus	12:00 PM - 12:00 AM	12 hrs
Robert Kepich	Command Bus	off	
Joe Scafidi	Command Bus	12:00 AM - 12:00 PM	12 hrs

-end-

OSHA SAMPLING RESULTS SUMMARY AS OF 10/16/01**Asbestos:**

A total of 478 air monitoring samples for asbestos have been taken. From 9/13 -9/22, 177 samples were taken in the financial district. They were taken on OSHA personnel as they walked within certain predetermined zones. Results revealed asbestos concentrations ranging from ND to .037 f/cc., well below OSHA's permissible exposure limit (PEL) of .1 f/cc.

After 9/22, sampling focused on the rubble pile (the keystone area of the map) where 32 of 210 samples exceeded OSHA's limit via PCM analysis. However, upon further analysis using discriminating counting methods and/or TEM analysis, the number of asbestos fibers found dropped dramatically to below detectable levels or well below .1 f/cc.

Sampling at Pier 25 where trucks carrying debris are being off loaded by crane to barge revealed no detectable asbestos.

Carbon Monoxide:

Thirty one personal samples for workers on the rubble pile showed results ranging from 1 ppm to 34 ppm well below the OSHA 50 ppm permissible exposure limit.

Noise:

OSHA has been conducting noise monitoring in the rubble pile (the keystone area of the map). Three personal samples have been conducted on employees performing (or working near) various operations such as jack hammering. Employee's exposure to noise ranged from 88 dBA to 89 dBA. OSHA's permissible noise exposure limit for construction is 90 dBA.

Silica:

As of October 16th, the overwhelming majority of the 159 silica samples show no detectable levels of airborne silica. The highest sample result was approximately twice the OSHA limit, whereas the next highest level was less than half of this limit. Both of these levels were found on personnel working in the rubble pile, an area where OSHA continues to encourage the use of respiratory protection.

Volatile Organic**Compounds:**

As of October 16th, OSHA has taken 120 samples for volatile organic compounds (VOCs) such as acetaldehyde, acrylonitrile, acetoin, benzene, 2-butanone, chlorodiphenyl (PCB), dioxin, ethyl benzene, formaldehyde, hexane, isocyanates, perchloromethylene, styrene, toluene, trichloroethylene, vinyl chloride and xylene. Screening samples initially showed elevated levels of some organic chemicals resulting from the fires burning in the rubble pile. Subsequent personal samples at breathing zone level and area samples show worker exposure levels to be below OSHA limits. However, one personal sample result for benzene was found at the 8hr OSHA allowable limit concentration of 1ppm. This exposure was found on a backhoe operator moving debris on the pile.

Metals:

OSHA has taken 218 air samples to monitor worker exposures to dusts, fumes, oxides, and other compounds of metals such as antimony, beryllium, chromium, cobalt, copper, iron, lead, manganese, molybdenum, nickel, vanadium, zinc, cadmium, magnesium, arsenic, and mercury. Results from these samples are generally well below the applicable OSHA limits. However, torch cutting and burning structural steel at the pile have resulted in instances of over-exposure as follows: copper (6); iron oxide (5); lead (1); and cadmium (3). Accordingly, OSHA is recommending that workers engaged in these operations continue to wear appropriate respiratory protection.

Other Analysis:

OSHA has sampled for dioxin, isocyanates, polynucleated aromatics and oxides of nitrogen. Analysis is pending.

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U.S. Department of Labor

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WTC Recovery Project
Joint Crane Inspection Initiative
Report & Analysis 10/17/2001

The joint crane inspection initiative was launched on Friday 10/12/01. The team consisted of three OSHA compliance officers with extensive crane inspection experience. The team was accompanied by similarly experienced personnel from Bechtel. At various points, the team was joined by representatives of the Operating Engineers and the employers affected. The team is still following up on cranes which were not available for inspection during the period. The team is also focus on rigging issues, slings, man baskets, and related topics of concern.

From 10/12-14, seventeen cranes were inspected at the site. Of these, ten were found to have serious safety deficiencies. The breakdown by sector follows (note: the sector identifies the prime contractor, but the crane may be owned, rented, or used by a subcontractor):

Sector	Cranes inspected	Cranes with deficiencies
Amec	5	3
Bovis	4	2
Tully	4	3
Turner	4	2
TOTAL	17	10

A total of 38 serious hazards were identified on the ten cranes with deficiencies. Most of the hazards related to crane setup, rigging, and hoisting practices. The most serious concerns relate to the practice of personnel hoisting using manbaskets. Other concerns raised deal with the general lack of preventative maintenance and down-time for the crane. The constant pace of the job also raises safety concerns due to fatigue of operators and grounds-persons. Continuing attention also needs to be paid to the adequacy of the foundations for the cranes, not only when set up but also when traveling. Finally, there needs to be a system in place to communicate between shifts if equipment is taken out of service. It has been observed that defective slings are discarded on the ground but not marked, meaning they might get used by another crew. A similar situation could arise with the cranes themselves. Some consistent form of tagging or marking should be developed.

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HAZARDS OBSERVED:

- Personnel hoisting (16 instances)
 - Personnel platform deficiencies (11 instances)
 - Crane not equipped or setup to hoist personnel (4 instances)
 - Crane operation unsafe for personnel hoisting (1 instances)
- Crane setup (9 instances)
- Crane deficiencies (8 instances)
- Slings / lifting devices (3 instances)
- Crane operation (2 instances)

The crane team will continue to inspect the remaining cranes throughout the site (not all were running, setup, or attended during the previous walkarounds). The team will also focus on rigging practices and the physical condition of the slings and lifting devices.