

Avaltroni, Robert

From: Gilsenan, Michael (ex)
Sent: Wednesday, July 10, 2002 4:52 PM
To: Radhakrishnan, Krish
Cc: Avaltroni, Robert; Pecunies, Russ; Kelpin, Gerry
Subject: FW: Background Study Information Sheet and Content Agreements



wtcbackgroundbuilding
4-access....



wtcbackground-reside
ntaccess9....



wtc_background_sam
pling_facts_...

FYI - background study

—Original Message—

From: Maltais.Nancy@epamail.epa.gov
Sent: Wednesday, July 10, 2002 3:47 PM
To: dianac@dep.nyc.gov; cxjohnso@gw.dec.state.ny.us;
njeffery@health.nyc.gov; jleighto@health.nyc.gov;
rjt03@health.state.ny.us; nkk01@health.state.ny.us;
reed.larry@epamail.epa.gov; grevatt.peter@epamail.epa.gov;
tulis.dana@epamail.epa.gov; rcw1@cdc.gov; svr1@cdc.gov;
marianne.jackson@fema.gov; habib.nina@epamail.epa.gov;
basso.ray@epamail.epa.gov; pavliou.george@epamail.epa.gov;
maddaloni.mark@epamail.epa.gov; callahan.kathy@epamail.epa.gov;
laposta.dore@epamail.epa.gov; jprudhom@health.nyc.gov;
michaelgi@dep.nyc.gov; kmckinne@health.nyc.gov; lilan@cityhall.nyc.gov;
sbenson@oem.nyc.gov; rlc07@health.state.ny.us; sxj6@cdc.gov;
axb9@cdc.gov; robert.tranter@fema.gov;
fitzpatrick.robert@epamail.epa.gov; kruger.mary@epamail.epa.gov;
david.ippolito@osha.gov; garvey-robert@dol.gov;
giardina.paul@epamail.epa.gov; girman.john@epamail.epa.gov;
smith.terry@epamail.epa.gov; debonis.michael@epamail.epa.gov;
jmiller@health.nyc.gov; gibb.herman@epamail.epa.gov;
salkie.richard@epamail.epa.gov; rotola.joe@epamail.epa.gov;
spryce@dcas.nyc.gov; simon.paul@epamail.epa.gov;
lynes.carol@epamail.epa.gov; schaum.john@epamail.epa.gov;
mitchell.judy-ann@epamail.epa.gov; yeh.alice@epamail.epa.gov
Cc: mmm03@health.state.ny.us; sapetron@gw.dec.state.ny.us;
cruz.auria@epamail.epa.gov; debonis.michael@epamail.epa.gov;
stradford.virginia@epamail.epa.gov; amo03@health.state.ny.us;
rsierra1@health.nyc.gov; kushner.burton@epamail.epa.gov;
garvey-robert@dol.gov; nelliem@dep.nyc.gov; janem@dep.nyc.gov;
lnl1@cdc.gov; lxlucca@gw.dec.state.ny.us; amo03@health.state.ny.us;
mprice@health.nyc.gov; higgins.john@epamail.epa.gov;
sprague.bruce@epamail.epa.gov; valejand@health.nyc.gov
Subject: Background Study Information Sheet and Content Agreements

— Forwarded by Nancy Maltais/R2/USEPA/US on 07/10/02 03:40 PM —

Carol Lynes

To: [Nancy Maltais/R2/USEPA/US@EPA](mailto:Nancy.Maltais/R2/USEPA/US@EPA)
cc: [Kathy Callahan/R2/USEPA/US@EPA](mailto:Kathy.Callahan/R2/USEPA/US@EPA), [Dore LaPosta/R2/USEPA/US@EPA](mailto:Dore.LaPosta/R2/USEPA/US@EPA), Kevin
07/10/02 02:05 PM

We still have strong concerns about how lead will be addressed during the cleanup. Our re-review of testing results, some of which were provided by residents who had testing performed at their own expense, shows that lead has been found at significant levels, certainly high enough to raise concern about the health of young children. At a minimum, lead should be among the contaminants tested for in pre- and post-cleaning testing at all residences where young children currently reside, although we agree with the sentiment expressed by everyone at the meeting that all apartments potentially will house children. Thus, we continue to believe that all apartments should be so tested.

Also, while lead paint was outlawed in NYC in 1960, we feel that 1960 is a poor choice to use to distinguish between buildings with possible lead paint problems and those without based on date of construction.

There is no indication that the ban was effectively enforced in 1960,

and it is more reasonable to assume that buildings erected prior to 1978

- the HUD date—may well have been painted using old stocks of lead paint.

Second, we continue to believe that all cleanups have to be treated as minor asbestos projects, and thus the DEP/DOL regulations are applicable. We note the confusion that may be created by a scope of work that says that the regulations must be complied with yet materially departs from the regulations with respect to protective gear and in other respects. While residents' concerns have to be considered, so too must the need to protect workers and to comply with regulatory requirements. We would appreciate EPA's communicating its decision regarding this point.

Third, we remain concerned about the treatment of elevator shafts, which apparently only will be cleaned when heavy accumulations of WTC dust are present. Through our review of some literature on elevator shafts and talking with residents, we note that many of the older buildings have open elevators without solid sides. In these as well as in other buildings, the elevator shafts sometimes serve as part of the air circulation pattern in the building. In a report entitled "Factors Affecting Indoor Air Quality," from the Building Owners and Management Association, the report says:

"The HVAC system is generally the predominant pathway and driving force for air movement in buildings. However, all of a building's components (walls, ceilings, floors, penetrations, HVAC equipment, and occupants) interact to affect the distribution of contaminants."

"For example, as air moves from supply registers or diffusers to return air grilles, it is diverted or obstructed by partitions, walls, and furnishings, and redirected by openings that provide pathways for air movement. On a localized basis, the movement of people has a major impact on the movement of pollutants. Some of the pathways change as doors and windows open and close."

"It is useful to think of the entire building - the rooms and the connections (e.g., chases, corridors, stairways, elevator shafts) between them - as part of the air distribution system."

http://www.boma.org/iaq/Factors_Affecting_Indoor_Air_Quality.htm

Thus, if even light dusting is found, we believe that the shafts should be cleaned.

Finally, we urge EPA to disclose its findings on mercury. We have arranged to speak with Uday Singh and Clyde Johnson next week, and may have follow-up questions for EPA after those conversations.

We look forward to receiving the materials EPA said it would send us so we can review them prior to the finalization of the scope of work.

Matheis/R2/USEPA/US@EPA

Subject: Background Study Information Sheet and
Content Agreements

Nancy,

Please forward the attached documents to the Indoor Air Work Group.

Thank you.

Carol Lynes

(See attached file: wtcbackgroundbuilding4-access.wpd)(See attached file: wtcbackground-
residentaccess9.wpd)(See attached file: wtc_background_sampling_facts_-final7.wpd)

**CONSENT FOR ACCESS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLING
WORLD TRADE CENTER BACKGROUND STUDY**

This consent concerns access to the common areas of the building ("Building") at the following address, for purposes of participation in the World Trade Center Background Study:

Street Address:

City, State and Zip Code

INTRODUCTION

The United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") is conducting a background study ("Background Study") of the constituents in airborne and settled dust in selected residential dwellings north of 59th Street in Manhattan.

The results of the Background Study will be compared with samples taken from apartments and common areas in buildings near the collapse of the World Trade Center.

At the conclusion of the investigation, EPA will prepare a report that discusses the findings. The Background Report will be available to the public.

EPA is conducting the Background Study pursuant to its role under the Federal Response Plan and the authority of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. § 5121 et seq.

CONSENT

I have read EPA's Fact Sheet on the Background Study. Having considered the information provided to me about the Background Study, I consent to officers, employees and authorized representatives of EPA having access to the common areas in the Building, as well as to furniture and carpets that may be in the common areas in the Building. I also consent to the release of the sampling data related to the Building.

I understand that the Background Study will be performed by contractors retained by EPA with direct oversight by EPA. The contractors performing the sampling activities are required to maintain insurance coverage for commercial general liability, workers compensation and environmental impairment liability. The contractors are required to maintain such insurance at all times that they are conducting sampling activities in the Building.

I understand that sampling and analysis in the Background Study will be performed as follows:

- Air samples will be collected from small pumps running for an eight-hour time period;
- Low suction vacuum samples may be collected from locations in the common areas;

- Wipe samples will be collected from horizontal surfaces, including but not limited to, tables, counters, bare floors, walls and ceilings;
- Samples will be collected from central air conditioning/heater units, if available.
- EPA will analyze each of the samples collected for asbestos and lead. Wipe samples will also be analyzed for dioxins, polyaromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), silica, calcite, gypsum, man-made fibers (such as fibrous glass), and total dust. Indoor air samples will also be analyzed for silica, calcite, gypsum, and man-made fibers (such as fibrous glass). Upon completion of the analyses, EPA will provide the written sampling results for the Building to the signatory below.

I understand that I, or my authorized representative, may be present during the sampling and may observe the activities being performed in the Building, and I, or my authorized representative, agree to comply with instructions provided by EPA.

This written permission is given voluntarily with knowledge of the right to refuse and without threats or promises of any kind.

I certify that I am authorized to grant access to the common areas of the Building for the Background Study.

Signature

Date

Name and Title (PRINT)

Address

Telephone Number(s)

CONSENT FOR ACCESS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLING WORLD TRADE CENTER BACKGROUND STUDY

This consent concerns access to the residence ("Residence") at the following address, for purposes of participation in the World Trade Center Background Study:

Street Address:

Apartment Number

City, State and Zip Code

INTRODUCTION

The United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") is conducting a background study ("Background Study") of the constituents in airborne and settled dust in selected residential dwellings north of 59th Street in Manhattan.

The results of the Background Study will be compared with samples taken from apartments in buildings near the collapse of the World Trade Center.

At the conclusion of the investigation, EPA will prepare a report that discusses the findings. The Background Report will be available to the public, but the identity of volunteers will be confidential.

EPA is conducting the Background Study pursuant to its role under the Federal Response Plan and the authority of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. § 5121 et seq.

CONSENT

I have read EPA's Fact Sheet on the Background Study. Having considered the information provided to me about the Background Study, I consent to officers, employees and authorized representatives of EPA having access to the Residence and the personal property located in the Residence. I also consent to the release of sampling data related to the Residence.

I understand that the Background Study will be performed by contractors retained by EPA with direct oversight by EPA. The contractors performing the sampling activities are required to maintain insurance coverage for commercial general liability, workers compensation and environmental impairment liability. The contractors are required to maintain such insurance at all times that they are conducting sampling activities in the Residence.

I understand that the Background Study will require access to the Residence and the personal property which is located in various areas of the Residence, including but not limited to the living room, den, bedroom(s), bathroom(s), dining area or dining room, kitchen, and air conditioning/heating units.

Background sampling and analysis will consist of the following:

- Air samples collected from small pumps running for an eight-hour time period in the Residence;
- Low suction vacuum samples collected from carpets, fabric furniture, and/or drapes, in living areas;
- Wipe samples collected from horizontal surfaces of tables, counters, bare floors, walls and ceilings;
- Samples collected from individual air conditioning/heater units.
- EPA will analyze each of the samples collected for asbestos and lead. Wipe samples will also be analyzed for dioxins, polyaromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), silica, calcite, gypsum, man-made fibers (such as fibrous glass), and total dust. Indoor air samples will also be analyzed for silica, calcite, gypsum, and man-made fibers (such as fibrous glass). Upon completion of the analyses, EPA will distribute the individual sampling results to each volunteer.

I understand that I, or my authorized representative, must be present during the sampling and may observe the activities being performed in the Residence, and I, or my authorized representative, agree to comply with instructions provided by EPA.

This written permission is given voluntarily with knowledge of the right to refuse and without threats or promises of any kind.

I certify that I am the owner or tenant of the Residence, and I am authorized to grant access for the Background Study on behalf of all the occupants in the Residence.

Signature

Name and Title (PRINT)

Telephone Number(s)

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS IN WORLD TRADE CENTER STUDY TO DETERMINE PRE-9/11 POLLUTION LEVELS

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) needs your help in its continuing response to environmental concerns raised by the attack on the World Trade Center (WTC). To better assess the impacts of possible contamination from WTC dust, the Agency needs to learn what levels of pollution existed prior to September 11. To do that, EPA needs to test the dust in apartment buildings that were not directly affected by the collapse.

EPA will soon begin cleaning and testing residential dwellings in lower Manhattan that were impacted by the collapse of the World Trade Center. In order to establish pre-existing or background levels of pollution, EPA will sample 28 residential units and 14 common areas within buildings located north of 59th Street.

Your building has been identified as an ideal candidate for the background study due to the building type (which is typical of housing in lower Manhattan) and its location well north of the WTC site. By volunteering to have your home sampled for pollutants, you can help fellow New Yorkers while receiving useful and interesting information about your home environment.

Background samples will be taken from two residential units and from the common areas in your building, such as the lobby, hallways and/or stairwells. Background samples are defined as samples taken from apartments and common areas that compare in layout to impacted locations near the WTC collapse. The background sampling results will be compared to data from buildings near the WTC Center collapse. The sampling for EPA's background study will be conducted by licensed contractors with direct EPA oversight.

In order to participate in the background study, EPA requests that you or your authorized representative:

- ✓ Agree to participate for a one-time, one-day, nine-hour period between on or about July 29 through August 16, 2002, from Monday through Friday (limited number of Saturdays available). EPA will schedule a time that is convenient;
- ✓ Allow small, low-suction air pumps to run continuously in your residential unit, or for building volunteers, in the common areas of the building, for a period of eight hours;

- ✓ For residences, to run fans or air conditioning units as would normally be used on a daily basis during the duration of the sampling;
- ✓ Complete a questionnaire provided by EPA;
- ✓ Allow EPA to collect and analyze wipe and vacuum samples; and
- ✓ Sign an access agreement provided by EPA.

Background samples will consist of the following:

- Air samples collected from pumps running eight-hours in each residential unit and from the common areas of the building;
- Low-suction vacuum samples from carpets, fabric furniture, and/or drapes, in each residential unit and the common areas, if available;
- Wipe samples of dust from horizontal surfaces of tables, counters, bare floors, and walls and ceilings;
- Samples from individual air conditioner units and/or from the air conditioning/heating unit for the entire building.

Sampling instruments will run for eight hours in selected common areas and residential units. EPA's contractor will stay outside the residential units or near the common areas as they are being sampled. The contractor will check the pumps hourly to ensure that they are working properly.

If you volunteer to have your home or building tested, EPA requests that you or your authorized representative be present during the sampling. For sampling in the common areas of the building, the owner or his or her authorized representative may decide whether or not to be present.

Costs for the background study are being paid by the federal government.

EPA will analyze each of the samples collected for asbestos and lead. Wipe samples will also be analyzed for dioxins, polyaromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), silica, calcite, gypsum, man-made fibers (such as fibrous glass), and total dust. Indoor air samples will also be analyzed for silica, calcite, gypsum, and man-made fibers (such as fibrous glass). Analysis of the samples is expected to take eight to twelve weeks to complete. Once the study is complete, EPA will distribute written sampling results to the participants. The sampling results will be provided to the participants prior to publication as part of a general data base. The names of the participants will be kept confidential.

To volunteer to participate in the background study, please contact Carol Lynes at (212) 637-3585. For more information, contact Ben Barry at (212) 637-3651.

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