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From: Lynes.Carol@epamail.epa.gov
Sent: Friday, June 28, 2002 4:55 PM
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Subject: Retransmission of file



wtc_background_sam
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I am forwarding the Fact Sheet file again since I received a couple of messages stating that the file was corrupt. Please detach and save this file and then open it in word perfect.

Thanks

Carol Lynes

----- Forwarded by Carol Lynes/R2/USEPA/US on 06/28/02 04:47 PM -----

Kevin Matheis
 <kevinmatheis@sabres
 hockey.com>

06/28/02 02:05 PM

To: Carol Lynes/R2/USEPA/US@EPA
cc:
Subject: Retransmission of file

(See attached file: wtc_background_sampling_facts_-final.wpd)



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 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 apartments that were not directly effected 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 79th Street.

Your building has been identified as an ideal candidate for this study due to the building type (it typifies some of the housing stock 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.

Samples will need to be taken from two units in your building and from common-use areas such as lobbies and/or stairwells. The results will be compared to impacted locations near the World Trade Center collapse. The sampling for EPA's background study will be conducted by licensed contractors with direct EPA oversight.

In order to volunteer, we need for you to:

- ✓ Be available for a one-time, one-day, eight-hour period between July 29 through August 16th, Monday through Friday (limited number of Saturdays available). EPA will schedule with you for a mutually convenient time;
- ✓ Allow three air pumps to run continuously in your dwelling for a period of eight hours, and allow EPA to wipe and vacuum some areas of your dwelling; and
- ✓ Sign an access agreement provided by EPA.

These background samples will consist of the following:

- Three air samples collected from pumps running eight-hours at each apartment and common space;
- Vacuum samples from carpets, drapes, and fabric furniture in living areas.
- Wipe samples from horizontal surfaces of tables, counters, bare floors, and walls and ceilings.
- Samples from individual air conditioner units or from the air conditioning unit for the entire building.

Sampling instruments will run for eight hours in selected common areas and residential units. EPA's contractor will need to sit outside residential units or sit near the common areas being sampled. The contractor will check the pumps hourly to ensure the pumps are working and samples are being collected in an appropriate manner. EPA requests that the owner or owner's representative be present during the sampling. Costs for the sampling effort 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 (PAH's), silica, calcite, gypsum, man-made fibers (such as ceramic dusts), and total dust. Analysis of the samples is expected to take 2 months to complete. Once the study is complete, the New York City Department of Health and EPA will distribute the individual sampling results. Results will be shared with the participants first and will be kept confidential. In addition, the results will only be shared as part of general data – specific units will not be identified..

To volunteer for the program, contact Kevin Matheis at 212-637-3122 or Carol Lynes at 212-637-3585. For more information, contact Ben Barry at (212) 637-3671.

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