

Gilsenan, Michael

From: Roger Hayes [rhayes@health.nyc.gov]
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2002 4:18 PM
To: WTCHotline@otbnyc.com
Cc: michaelgi@dep.nyc.gov; Caroline Bragdon; Christopher D'Andrea; Jessica Leighton; Jim Miller; Nancy Jeffery
Subject: Indoor Air Questions



Hotline Indoor Air
3-28-02.doc...

Cara + Donna,

Attached is an answer sheet for operators to use when they receive calls about indoor air. Please distribute . I also attached the EPA press release from Monday which states that "ATSDR, with support from NYCDOH & EPA, is planning to expand the indoor air study conducted in December". Please distribute this also. We'll just have to update this as it becomes clearer what other testing is going to be conducted.

Roger



WordPerfect 6.1

Questions Regarding Indoor Air**3/28/02**

For callers who want to know if their building was tested, or whether someone will test the air in their apartment or office building:

- 1. Main message:** Right now there is no government agency conducting indoor air tests, but we do have information on many buildings. Also the ATSDR in collaboration with the Department of Health did conduct sampling of 30 buildings and we can give an overview of those results (in the blue binder under Indoor Air). The EPA has a Task Force that is considering more indoor air testing, but so far there has been no decision as to how this will take place or which buildings would be tested.
- 2. Find out the address**
- 3. *If the address is one of the 30 buildings sampled by ATSDR,***
 - a. Take the contact information and tell caller that someone from the Health Department will call back. These forms should go in the DOH Referral file.**
 - b. Tell them you can give them an overview of the results of the sampling.**
- 4. *If the address is one of the buildings that DEP has on its list,*** tell the caller what information was sent to DEP. If the caller wants more results suggest that they contact the owner and ask for any documentation. If the owner will not release this, tell the caller that DEP is checking with its legal staff to see if results can be released.
- 5. *If the address is not on either list,*** take their contact information and tell them that we can notify them if any more indoor air testing is conducted.

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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency -- Region 2

>New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands

>290 Broadway - New York, New York 10007-1866

>www.epa.gov/region2

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>EPA - Mary Mears, 212-637-3669

>NYC - Frank McCarton (OEM), 718-422-4888

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>FEDERAL, STATE AND CITY AGENCIES ANNOUNCE ACTIONS FOR LOWER

>MANHATTAN AIR QUALITY

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>FOR RELEASE: Monday, March 25, 2002

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(#02114) New York, New York - Today the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), along with New York City and other federal and state agencies, announced additional actions to address outdoor and indoor air quality. As part of the overall effort to continue to protect air quality, DEP will remove residual debris from rooftops and facades with EPA's guidance. OSHA will work in a coordinated effort with the City and EPA to ensure the safety and health of the workers performing this cleaning.

EPA and New York City will expand the program to remove residual debris from rooftops and facades around the World Trade Center site. In addition, agencies will work to build on an indoor air study conducted in November and December. These actions are a result of the collaborative efforts of the EPA Administrator Christie Whitman's Task Force on Indoor Air and New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg's Lower Manhattan Air Quality Task Force.

"Actions speak louder than words, and these actions will help increase confidence about outdoor and indoor air quality," said Jane Kenny, EPA Regional Administrator. "We have been working hand-in-hand with the city to resolve the public's health concerns."

"I am extremely pleased that EPA continues to work with the City to address concerns regarding air quality in Lower Manhattan," said incoming DEP Commissioner Christopher Ward.

Tests conducted since September 11th have indicated that there is no evidence of significant long-term health risks to residents and office workers from the air quality in Lower Manhattan. Inspectors from the City and EPA have surveyed area rooftops and facades identifying buildings where residual debris remains. As removal of debris from the World Trade Center site nears completion, City, State and Federal agencies are committed to continuing to protect and improve the downtown environment.

City, state and federal health and environmental agencies are working collaboratively to continue to assess the cleaning that was conducted and determine testing criteria. Building on earlier

tests, EPA will conduct field work to assess cleanup techniques and provide information for ongoing cleaning. The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, with support from the New York City Department of Health and EPA, is planning to expand the indoor air study conducted in December 2001.

As these projects are developed, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will fund components that are eligible under its programs. As the agency responsible for coordinating federal assistance in support of the city's long term recovery efforts, FEMA is working closely with all concerned agencies.

Both the EPA and New York City Task Forces will work cooperatively to continue to protect air quality. The Lower Manhattan Air Quality Hotline (212-221-8635) will continue to be the principal point of information dissemination to businesses, residents and visitors regarding air quality and environmental issues in and around the World Trade Center site. The City's Task Force will also coordinate additional community outreach and local initiatives as part of the broader effort to build public confidence in the downtown environment.

For more information, call the City's Lower Manhattan Air Quality Hotline at 212-221-8635 between 11:00 am and 7:00 pm Monday through Friday. In addition, information can be found on EPA's web site at: www.epa.gov; OSHA's web site at: www.osha.gov; NYCDOH's web site at: www.ci.nyc.ny.us/html/doh/home.htm; and NYCDEP's web site at: www.nyc.gov/html/dep/html/airmonit.html.

Gilsenan, Michael

From: Raffo, Barbara [DEPNET1/DEPGPO2/BarbaraR]
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2002 4:30 PM
To: Gilsenan, Michael (ex); Gilsenan, Michael; Maldonado, Jane 001
Subject: FW: FY Review /Input

From: Kelpin, Gerry
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2002 4:23 PM
To: Raffo, Barbara
Subject: FW: FY Review /Input

my changes, i hope are incorporated in this return e-mail.

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

From: Raffo, Barbara
Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2002 2:44 PM
To: Kelpin, Gerry 001
Subject: FY Review /Input



100 days.doc

WTC RELATED EXTERIOR BUILDING SURVEYS:

Since January, the Bureau of Environmental Compliance has been conducting surveys of building roofs, facades and setbacks. There are two geographical phases of the project:

Phase 1: East to West = West of Broadway to the Hudson River

North to South = Chambers Street to Battery Place

Phase 2: East to West = Pearl Street to Broadway

North to South = Brooklyn Bridge to Beaver Street

Approximately 435 buildings have been surveyed. All building owners in the above outlined areas have been requested to submit to DEP, details of their clean-up efforts and activities. DEP staff is reviewing the submitted data and is conducting follow-up inspections where needed. There is additional outreach being done to owners who have not responded to letters and phone calls. To date 259 reports and letters have been received from the owners or owner representatives of these properties.

SARA – RTK:

The New York City Community Right-to-Know law (RTK), (Local Law 26) was implemented in 1988 to augment the Federal Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) under the 1986 Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA).

In order to fulfill the City's responsibilities, DEP's Bureau of Environmental Compliance's (BEC), SARA-RTK Unit, is responsible for the law's implementation, management and enforcement.

The RTK Unit collects and manages information submitted annually by regulated facilities and uses the information to publish its Annual Report. The data is also used for informational purposes when responding to emergency situations involving those facilities.

Currently the RTK filings are collected in several stand-alone databases: (1) Citywide Facility Inventory Database (CFID); (2) Material Safety Data System (MSDS); (3) Risk Management Plan (RMP); and (4) An Inspection Database. Additional semi-computerized systems include one for fee calculation, one for incident reports, a laboratory tracking management database, a manifest tracking system, and a system that tracks Commissioner's Orders.

Funding was provided by Capital Project SARA RTK EP-5 to establish a system to integrate the information from the databases into one system that will be further enhanced by a GIS system, and will be one that will be accessible to not only DEP's emergency responders but to responders from other city agencies such as fire, police, OEM, etc.

Violation Issuance for Expired Permits, Certificates and Registrations Based on Records (via Mail):

The Bureau of Environmental Compliance has been working to clean up its Air Permitting System, Air Facility System (AFS). The implementation of a new air permitting system allows

for the analysis of the data in a more comprehensive fashion. Currently, when a permit, certificate or registration expires, an inspector is sent to the premise to determine if the equipment is still in use. If the equipment is still in use, and no attempt has been made to renew, a violation is issued.

At this time, due to the Bureau's increased confidence in the integrity of the data, in lieu of sending an inspector to the premise, a violation will be issued based on Department records. These violations will be automatically generated through AFS, which will allow the Bureau to reassign the inspectors now dedicated to this function, to complaint response and to locate businesses that have never filed permit applications.

Noise Code Rewrite:

Several Bureaus' within the Agency have undertaken the task to update the Department's Noise Code. The Code currently in place does not adequately address changes in the development pattern in the City that have resulted in different sources of noise complaints. The Code was promulgated in the early 1970's when there were much clearly divisions of manufacturing/commercial uses from residential uses. As we see more and more mixed use buildings and mixed uses areas, more residential users are exposed to commercial noise sources that occur 24 hours a day. These sources were not as much of an issue when the Code was first drafted because these commercial business areas essentially closed and the noise source was not heard by anyone during the overnight hours. This effort is to identify sections in the noise code that can be improved. The areas for change and modification are coming from the experiences of the enforcement staff, which have documented the difficulty in issuing a notice of violation for certain problems. The violation is our tool to gain compliance.

Additionally, this panel will look at the Codes of other Agencies with regard to noise issues and will attempt to reconcile some of the inconsistencies and to make suggestions that will strengthen efforts to achieve noise reductions.

Consolidation Project for Periodic Boiler Filings.

Both the New York City Department of Buildings (DoB) and DEP require that boilers operating at a certain level be inspected periodically. DoB requires that all boilers in dwellings equal to six families or greater and all boilers in commercial or mixed use buildings be inspected annually for safe operation and a report filed with the Department. DEP requires that a report be filed every three years, for boilers operating at equal to or greater than 350,000 BTU's, to ensure that the emission standards are acceptable. It is a hardship on filers to be required to submit reports to two separate agencies for the same piece of equipment.

DEP has proposed to DoB that a "one-stop" process be implemented for boilers regulated by both agencies. Both agency's filings require that much of the same information be provided (i.e. address, owner, block & lot, equipment make and model, etc.), DEP has drafted a form that will accommodate the informational needs of each. The inspection report will be filed at the

Department of Buildings, since DoB requires annual filings while DEP has a tri-annual requirement. The filing information will then be forwarded electronically to DEP.

This “one-stop” approach would reduce the amount of paper filed, simplify inspection and filing requirements for applicants, and streamline processing.