NYC 9/11 Public Portal Document

ATC ASSOCIATES INC.

104 East 25th St., 10th Fl
New York, New York 10010
www.atc-enviro.com
212.353.8280
Fax 212.353.8306

October 2, 2002

Mr. Bernard P. Orlan
Director, Environmental Health & Safety
New York City Department of Education
28-11 Queens Plaza North
Long Island City, NY 11101-4008

Re: Wipe Samples for Dioxins
P. S. 131M
ATC Project No. 15-19125-0346

Dear Mr. Orlan:

ATC Associates Inc. (ATC) is pleased to provide this report of the results of the wipe samples for polychlorinated dibenzo-p-dioxins (PCDDs)and dibenzofurans (PCDFs) collected on August 23, 2002 at the referenced location. The New York City Department of Education (DOE) requested these samples to evaluate possible contamination in the school building.

SCOPE OF WORK

The samples were collected using gauze pads and hexane as a solvent. The pads and solvent were provided and samples were analyzed by Pace Analytical Services, Inc. (Pace) of Minneapolis, MN, a laboratory experienced in dioxin analysis. The analysis was performed by modified EPA Method 8290 using combined capillary column gas chromatography/high resolution mass spectrometry.

Tenzin Namgyal, Industrial Hygienist of ATC's New York City office, collected the samples consistent with generally accepted industrial hygiene practices. There were inherent limitations created by constraints of time, operational and work practice variability, variations in contaminant concentrations, and sampling and analytical accuracy. The results of the sampling represent conditions found on the date the samples were collected.

WIPE SAMPLING RESULTS

ATC submitted three (3) wipe samples and one blank for PCDDs/PCDFs to Pace for analysis. A copy of the laboratory analysis report is provided in the Attachment. within the pharmacy area One sample was taken from each floor of the building. The area of each sample one (1) square meter ($1m^2$).

Each sample was analyzed for sixteen (16) PCDD/PCDF isomers. The results for each isomer were then converted to 2, 3, 7, 8 -tetrachloro-dibenzo-p-dioxin (2, 3, 7, 8-TCDD) equivalents by multiplying by an established equivalency factor.

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This provides a single value (in nanograms) for the analytical results for each sample. The sample locations and the results are shown in the table:

DIOXIN WIPE SAMPLE RESULTS
(2, 3, 7, 8 TCDD EQUIVALENTS)
August 23, 2002

LOCATION/SAMPLE NUMBER	DIOXIN CONCENTRATION (ng/m^2)
Main Lobby/DX-1	0.0016
2nd Floor Hall by Room 210/DX-2	0.00059
3rd Floor Hall by Room 327/DX-3	0.000040
Blank/DX-4	0.00

The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) established guidelines for dioxin for the re-occupancy of the Binghamton State Office Building following a PCB fire. The NYSDOH guideline for dioxin on surfaces is 25 nanograms per square meter (25 ng/m^2).

The concentrations on indoor surfaces ranged form 0.00040 to 0.0016 nanograms per square meter (ng/m^2) for all readings. The dioxin concentrations in all of these sample are ***below*** the NYSDOH guideline.

It is not possible to determine when the 2, 3, 7, 8 - TCDD equivalents detected in these samples were deposited. Dioxin samples were not collected from these locations prior to this set of samples

It is our pleasure to provide these indoor environmental services to the DOE. If you have any questions about this report, please call (212) 353-8280, extension 212.

Sincerely,
ATC ASSOCIATES INC.

James R. Cohn, CIH,CSP
Regional Manager
Industrial Hygiene Division

Attachment

NYC-WTC_000175268