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February 26, 2002

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

**Re: Wipe Samples for Polychlorinated Biphenyls  
 Stuyvesant High School  
 ATC Project No. 15-19125-0246**

Dear Mr. Orlan:

ATC Associates Inc. (ATC) is pleased to provide this report of the results of the wipe-samples for polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) collected on February 13, 2002, at the referenced location. The New York City Board of Education (BOE) requested these samples to evaluate possible contamination from PCBs in the school building according to the recommendation of H. A. Bader, consultant to the parent's association.

#### **SCOPE OF WORK**

Mr. Tenzin Namgyal, Industrial Hygienist of ATC's New York City office, collected the samples.

The PCBs samples were collected using sterile gauze pads and hexane as a solvent. The solvent was provided and samples were analyzed by PSC Analytical Services, Inc. (PSC), an American Industrial Hygiene Association-accredited laboratory in Reading, PA. The PCB analysis was performed using EPA Method 8082B.

ATC's findings and conclusions are based on the laboratory samples results and the conditions present in the school at the time of the assessment.

The sampling was performed 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 dates the samples were collected.

#### **WIPE SAMPLING RESULTS**

ATC submitted three samples for PCBs (plus one blank) to PSC for analysis. A copy of the laboratory report is provided in Attachment 1. Samples were taken from areas specified by the parent's association consultant. The sample area for each wipe sample was 100 square centimeters (100cm<sup>2</sup>).

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The areas sampled were:

- 1st floor Main Entrance Wall;
- 2nd floor Bridge Entrance Wall; and
- Mixed Plenum – HVAC -2.

Each sample was analyzed for seven PCB compounds with differing percentages of chlorine.

*The PCB results of all samples were below the reporting limits (2.0 micrograms/sample). The same level was reported in the blank.*

Currently, the Environmental Protection Agency spill clean-up standard for PCBs on non-porous surfaces is 10 micrograms per 100 square centimeters or less ( $<10 \text{ ug}/100\text{cm}^2$ ) as stated in 40 CFR 761.

It is our pleasure to provide these indoor environmental services to the New York City Board of Education. If you have any questions about this report, please call (212) 353-8280, extension 212 or 261.

Sincerely,  
**ATC ASSOCIATES INC.**



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

Attachment

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