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January 21, 2002

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

**Re: Air Samples for Mercury Vapor
High School for Economics and Finance (M833)
100 Trinity Place
New York, New York
ATC Project No. 15-19125-0291**

Dear Mr. Orlan

ATC Associates, Inc. (ATC) is pleased to provide this letter report of air sampling for mercury vapor collected on January 14, 2002, at the referenced school. The New York City Board of Education (BOE) requested these samples to evaluate possible contamination in the school building.

ATC collected nine (9) samples for mercury vapor. Samples were collected for a minimum of ten (10) hours. Seven (7) samples were collected inside the building and two (2) were collected outdoors. One blank sample was also submitted. The samples were sent to PSC Analytical Services, Inc., an American Industrial Hygiene Association-accredited laboratory in Reading, PA. A copy of the analytical report is provided in the attachment.

Samples for mercury vapor were collected using Carulite® (Hydrar) tubes connected to battery-powered sampling pumps calibrated to collect 0.2 liters of air per minute. Analysis was performed by means of a mercury analyzer according to NIOSH Method 6009.

The locations of the samples were: Roof by air intake; Outdoors by the Main Entrance, Main lobby; 3rd floor by Stair B; 5th floor Stair A; 7th floor hallway by the bridge; Kitchen 8th floor, Room 906, Room 1006.

The established regulatory value for mercury is intended for industrial workplace exposures and is not generally applicable to office/school settings. There are no standards for mercury in indoor air in non-industrial situations.

SAMPLE RESULTS

The outdoor sample from the Main Entrance (#Hg1) contained 0.0450 micrograms (ug) of Hg which equals an airborne concentration of 0.000375 milligrams per cubic meter (mg/m³). The blank contained 0.037 ug of Hg. The blank-corrected Hg concentration in Sample #Hg1 is 0.00007 mg/m³.

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This was the only sample that contained Hg at a concentration greater than that found in the blank. The indoor Hg concentrations were all less than the blank.

ATC appreciates the opportunity to provide this indoor air quality service to the BOE. Please call me at (212) 353-8280 extension 212 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
ATC Associates, Inc.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James R. Cohn", written over a horizontal line.

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

Attachment

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