



104 East 25th Street
10th Floor
New York, New York
10010-2917
212.353.8280
Fax 212.353.8306

January 7, 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 Sampling for Mercury
Stuyvesant High School
ATC Project No. 15-19125-0246**

Dear Mr. Orlan:

ATC Associates, Inc. (ATC) is pleased to provide this letter report of air sampling for mercury conducted on December 20 and 26, 2001, at the referenced school. The New York City Board of Education (BOE) requested this sampling at the recommendation of H. A. Bader, a consultant to the parents' association.

On each day, ATC collected three (3) samples for mercury vapor using Carulite® (Hydrar) tubes connected to battery-powered sampling pumps calibrated to collect 0.2 liters of air per minute. Two samples were collected indoors and one was collected on the roof. The samples were sent to PSC Analytical Services, Inc., an American Industrial Hygiene Association-accredited laboratory in Reading, PA. One blank tube was also submitted. Analysis was performed by means of a mercury analyzer according to NIOSH Method 6009. A copy of the analytical report is attached.

Mercury (Hg) was found at a trace level in each of the three samples. It was also detected in the blank. The tables show the mercury concentrations in the samples on each day.

**TABLE 1
Airborne Mercury (Hg) Concentrations*
December 20, 2001**

Sample No. and Location	Hg per sample (micrograms)	Vol. (liters)	Hg Concentration (mg/m ³)*
Hg-1 1 st Floor Main Lobby	0.032	96	0.000333
Hg-2 2 nd floor bridge lobby	0.031	96.4	0.000322
Hg-3 Roof	0.028	97	0.000289
Hg-4 Blank	0.032	--	--

- milligrams per cubic meter of air / *Not* blank corrected

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TABLE 2
Airborne Mercury (Hg) Concentrations*
December 26, 2001

Sample No. and Location	Hg per sample (micrograms)	Vol. (liters)	Hg Concentration (mg/m ³)*
Hg-1 1 st Floor Main Lobby	0.028	96	0.000292
Hg-2 2 nd floor bridge lobby	0.03	96	0.000312
Hg-3 Roof	0.029	96	0.000302
Hg-4 Blank	0.025	--	--

* milligrams per cubic meter of air / *Not* blank corrected

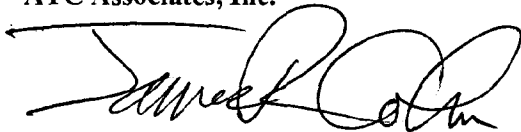
After the Hg level in the blank is subtracted, the maximum concentrations in the indoor samples drop to below the detection limit on December 20th and 0.000052 mg/m³ on December 26th. The outdoor levels drop to below the limit of detection on December 20th and 0.000042 mg/m³ on December 26th.

There are currently no federal ambient air standards for mercury. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL) for mercury is 1.0mg/10m³ (0.1mg/m³). This is considerably above the levels that were detected or that would otherwise be expected in a school or office and it is not an applicable standard.

Mercury was detected in the samples at levels just above the detection limit.

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.



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

Attachment