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May 8, 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 Vapor
P. S. 234M
ATC Project No. 15-19125-0279**

Dear Mr. Orlan:

ATC Associates, Inc. (ATC) is pleased to provide this letter report of air sampling for mercury vapor conducted on April 16 and 23, 2002, at the referenced school. The New York City Board of Education (BOE) requested this sampling at the recommendation of Environ Corp., a consultant to the parent's association.

Scope of Work

On each day, ATC collected four (4) samples for mercury vapor using Carulite® (Hydrar) tubes connected to battery-powered sampling pumps calibrated to collect 0.2 liters of air per minute. Samples were collected for ten (10) hours. Two (2) samples were collected indoors and two (2) were collected outdoors. 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.

Tenzin Namgyal and Wagdi Abdelshahid, Industrial Hygienists from ATC's New York City office, conducted the sampling. Sampling was conducted in accordance with accepted industrial hygiene practices. The results represent the conditions on the days the samples were collected.

The sampling locations were: Main Entrance Lobby, 1st Floor Hallway, West Playground and the Roof.

Results

On April 16, mercury (Hg) was detected in all samples at levels that were indistinguishable from that detected in the blank.

On April 23, mercury (Hg) was detected in all the samples at levels, that when blank corrected, ranged from 0.0000083 to 0.0000166 mg/m³. These results suggest that the Hg content is a random contaminant of the sample tubes and not the results of ambient levels of Hg vapor.

Mr. Bernard P. Orlan
Air Sampling for Mercury
P. S. 234 (Manhattan)

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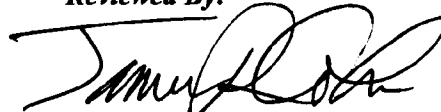
The established regulatory value for mercury (OSHA: $0.1\text{mg}/\text{m}^3$) is intended for industrial workplace exposures and is not generally applicable to office/school settings. There are no standards for mercury in indoor air in non-industrial situations. The EPA has no standard or guideline for mercury vapor in ambient air.

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.


Arnel Javal
Senior Project Manager

Reviewed By:


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

Attachment