NYC 9/11 Public Portal Document

New York City Department of Health

Resident Consent for Environmental Sampling

The New York City Department of Health is investigating the airborne and settled dust in residences around the World Trade Center (WTC) site. Participation in this investigation is voluntary. Your participation will help to determine if the air and dust inside your property can cause eye, nose, and throat (ENT) irritation. These tests will also help us tell if you or other residents are being exposed to airborne dust at levels that could cause long-term respiratory problems. They will also help us tell you if more WTC dust cleanup is advisable to protect your health. We will do these tests at no cost to the owners or tenants.

This investigation involves collecting indoor and outdoor air and settled surface dust samples from your property. The samples will be analyzed as follows:

Indoor and outdoor air will be tested for:
Crystalline silica and asbestos that can be inhaled.
Gypsum, mica, and calcite that can be inhaled in dust.

Indoor and outdoor settled surface dust will be tested for:
Asbestos, crystalline silica, pH, gypsum, mica, and calcite.

Participation

Again, your participation is voluntary. Participation involves allowing access to your property/ unit to collect air and dust samples and answering some questions about your building/unit. We will ask you for information to help us learn how the WTC collapse affected dust in your property. Giving us any information is voluntary and you may choose to stop participation at any time, even after you sign this consent form. If you choose not to participate, or to stop at any time, there will be no penalty or loss of benefits to which you are entitled.

While we are collecting air samples, we ask that no one smoke, burn candles or incense, fry foods or perform any other activities causing smoke. We ask you not to do any cleaning while we are sampling the air and dust. Please be present during the sampling. It's fine to freely move about your home. If you leave, please arrange for someone to be there while we are sampling. We ask you to continuously run the fan on your heating, ventilating, and air conditioning system while we are collecting air samples. If this cannot be done, we ask that you run a large fan to keep air circulating.

Results

When we finish this investigation, NYCDOH will prepare a written report that discusses the findings. The report will be available to the public but will not identify individual buildings or units. Your name or address will not be in any report.

NYCDOH will provide you with the results of your dust and air samples along with an explanation of their meaning.

We will not make individual sampling results or individual questionnaire information available to the public but may share them with other local, state, or federal health or environmental agencies. In addition, we will share results from the sampling for individual residences with building management. We will protect your confidentiality according to local, State, and Federal laws.

Questions

Before you decide whether to accept this invitation to take part in this investigation, please ask any questions that might come to mind now. Later, if you have questions about the investigation, please contact the investigator, Chris D'Andrea, New York City Department of Health, (212) 788-4285. If you have questions about your rights as a participant, please contact Stephen Titus, PhD(C), MPH, Chairperson or Berton Freedman, MPH, Vice Chairperson at the New York City Department of Health's Institutional Review Board at 212-442-3385 or 347-538-0089. We will give you a copy of this consent form to keep.

What Else Do I Need to Know?

If you have any symptoms of illness which you think may be related to the dust or air in your home, you should contact your personal physician.

I have read this consent form and I have been given a copy of this form. I agree to participate in this investigation.

_____ _____

Resident Signature Date

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CONSENT FOR ACCESS TO PROPERTY

Name (print) _____

Telephone number (____)_____

Description of Property (address) _____
_____
_____

I hereby consent for employees of the New York City Department of Health (NYCDOH) or parties authorized by NYCDOH, to enter and have reasonable access to the above-described property for the collection of environmental samples.

I am the property owner or an individual having the consent of the property owner to authorize access to the above-described property.

I give this written permission voluntarily with full knowledge of my right to refuse and without threats or promises of any kind.

_____ _____
Signature Date

Witness: _____ _____
Name Date

Please direct any questions or concerns about this sampling to Chris D'Andrea at the New York City Department of Health, (212) 788-4285.