NYC 9/11 Public Portal Document

ATC ASSOCIATES INC.

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September 13, 2002

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

Re: Air Sampling for Mercury Vapor
P. S. 126M
ATC Project No. 15-19125-0343

Dear Mr. Orlan:

ATC Associates, Inc. (ATC) is pleased to provide this report of the results of air sampling for mercury (Hg) vapor conducted on August 29, 2002, at the referenced school. The New York City Department of Education (DOE) requested this sampling prior to the resumption of classes to verify that acceptable indoor air quality is being maintained.

Scope of Work

ATC collected five (5) samples for Hg vapor using Carulite® (Hydrar) tubes connected to battery-powered sampling pumps calibrated to collect 0.2 liters of air per minute. 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 vapor analyzer according to NIOSH Method 6009. A copy of the analytical laboratory report is attached.

Wagdi Abdelshahid, Industrial Hygienist and Jimmy Choy, Environmental Technician from ATC's New York City office, conducted the sampling consistent with accepted industrial hygiene practices. The results represent the conditions on the day the samples were collected.

The sampling locations were: 1st floor Main Lobby, 2nd floor Hallway by Room 235, 3rd floor Hallway by Room 317, 4th floor hallway by Room 435 and 4th floor hallway by Room 405.

Results

Mercury (Hg) was detected in these samples at levels that were indistinguishable from that detected in the blank.

The established regulatory value for mercury ($0.1 mg/m^3$) 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.

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ATC appreciates the opportunity to provide this indoor air quality service to the DOE. If you have any questions concerning this report, please call (212) 353-8280 extension 370 or 212.

Sincerely,
ATC Associates, Inc.

Tenzin Namgyal
Industrial Hygienist

Reviewed by:

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

Attachment

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