NYC 9/11 Public Portal Document

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

Interim Air Sampling Report
Saturday, September 22, 2001

Investigators from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) collected air samples in areas immediately adjacent to the debris pile and on personnel actively involved in rescue efforts on or in the vicinity of the debris pile to characterize potential exposures. Below are the interim sampling results for Saturday, September 22, 2001.

Air Samples

Carbon Monoxide

- 7 real-time personal breathing zone samples were collected for carbon monoxide
  - All 8-hour time-weighted average concentrations were below 20 ppm
  - A single peak of 1,239 ppm was observed on a torch cutter

Crystalline silica

- 4 area air samples were collected for crystalline silica
  - No crystalline silica was detected on either of the air samples

Mercury

- 13 personal and 2 area air samples were collected for mercury
  - No mercury was detected on any of the air samples

Metals

- 4 personal and 4 area air samples were collected for metals
  - Nothing of concern was found regarding metal analysis

Respirable Dust

- 4 area air samples were collected for respirable dust
  - Area sample 8-hour time-weighted average concentrations were below 0.08 mg/m^3

Total Dust

- 2 Personal and 6 area air samples were collected for total dust
  - Personal sample 8-hour time-weighted average concentrations were below 0.94 mg/m^3
  - Area sample concentrations were below 1.0 mg/m^3

Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)

- 9 personal and 2 area air samples were collected with charcoal adsorbent tubes
  - Concentrations of VOCs on all samples were below detectable limits

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