NYC 9/11 Public Portal Document

ATC ASSOCIATES INC.

104 East 25th St., 10th Fl
New York, New York 10010
www.atc-enviro.com
212.353.8280
Fax 212.353.8306

August 28, 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 Silica
P. S. 89M
ATC Project No. 15-19125-0297

Dear Mr. Orlan:

ATC Associates, Inc. (ATC) is pleased to provide this letter report of air sampling for silica-containing dust conducted on August 16, 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 ten (10) samples respirable dust using pre-weighed 37mm PVC filters connected to size-selective cyclones to remove the larger (non-respirable) particles prior to deposition on the filters. All samples were collected indoors. The samples were sent to PSC Analytical Services, Inc., an American Industrial Hygiene Association accredited laboratory in Reading, PA. One blank filter was also submitted. Silica analysis was performed by x-ray diffraction according to OSHA Method 142. A copy of the analytical laboratory report is attached.

Wagdi Abdelshahid, Industrial Hygienist of ATC's New York City office, collected the samples consistent with generally accepted industrial hygiene practices. The results of the sampling represent conditions found on the date the samples were collected.

The sampling locations were: the 1st floor hallway (North), 1st floor hallway (South), Cafeteria, Gymnasium, Auditorium, Room 202 (South), Room 204 (East), Room 226 (North), 2nd floor hallway (South), and 4th floor hallway (South).

Results

Silica was *not present* above the limit of detection (<5 micrograms per sample) in any of the ten samples.

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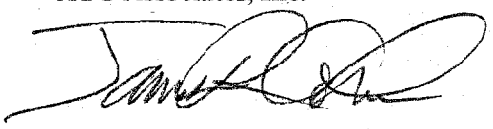
The OSHA Permissible Exposure Limit is the only regulatory standard for silica exposure, however it is intended for occupational exposure in settings such as foundries, sandblasting, rock drilling, etc. The EPA does not have an ambient-air quality standard for silica.

ATC appreciates the opportunity to provide this indoor air quality consultative service to the DOE. 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

NYC-WTC_000340750