NYC 9/11 Public Portal Document

ATC ASSOCIATES INC.

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July 2, 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 Metals
High School of Economics and Finance (M833)
ATC Project No. 15-19125-0291

Dear Mr. Orlan:

ATC Associates, Inc. (ATC) is pleased to provide this report of air sampling for metals conducted on June 8 and June 15, 2002 at the referenced school. The New York City Board of Education (BOE) requested this sampling to ensure that acceptable air quality is being maintained.

Scope of Work

On each day, ATC collected four (4) samples for metals from locations throughout the building and outdoors. Samples were collected for ten (10) hours using 37 mm mixed cellulose ester filters connected to battery-powered sampling pumps at a flow rate of 2 liters per minute. Pumps were calibrated before and after each sampling period. Three (3) samples were collected inside the building and one (1) was collected outdoors on the roof. Two (2) blank samples were also submitted per day. The samples were sent to PSC Analytical Services, Inc., an American Industrial Hygiene Association-accredited laboratory in Reading, PA. Analysis was performed by NIOSH Methods 7300M. The samples collected on each day were analyzed for a panel of twelve (12) metals. The metals were aluminum (Al), cadmium (Cd), chromium (Cr), cobalt (Co), copper (Cu), iron (Fe), magnesium (Mg), manganese (Mn), molybdenum (Mo), nickel (Ni), zinc (Zn) and lead (Pb). Copies of the analytical laboratory reports are attached.

The sampling locations were: the Main Lobby, the 5th floor Hallway, the 10th floor Hallway and the Roof.

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

The established regulatory values for metals are intended for industrial workplace exposures and are not generally applicable to office/school settings. There are no standards for these metals in indoor air in non-industrial situations.

NYC-WTC_000374236

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Results

June 8
Cr was detected in all four samples and in the blank. Blank-correcting the Cr concentrations lowers them to below or just above the limit of detection.

June 15
Cr was detected in all four samples and in the blank. Blank-correcting the Cr concentrations lowers them to below or just above the limit of detection.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has set a screening level for hexavalent chromium (the more toxic form) in air of 0.6 ug/m^3, this assumes a continuous exposure for one year. The samples here were analyzed for total chromium (trivalent and hexavalent).

ATC appreciates the opportunity to provide this indoor air quality service to the BOE. Please call me at (212) 353-8280 extension 212 or extension 290 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
ATC Associates, Inc.

Prasad Doddapaneni
Senior Project Manager

Reviewed By:

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

Attachment

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