NYC 9/11 Public Portal Document

ATC ASSOCIATES INC.

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March 26, 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 Mercury
P.S. 150M
ATC Project No. 15-19125-0289

Dear Mr. Orlan:

ATC Associates, Inc. (ATC) is pleased to provide this letter report of air sampling for mercury vapor conducted on March 11, 2002, at the referenced school. The New York City Board of Education (BOE) requested this sampling at the recommendation of Environ Corp., a consultant to the parent's association.

ATC collected three (3) samples for mercury vapor using Carulite® (Hydrar) tubes connected to battery-powered sampling pumps calibrated to collect 0.2 liters of air per minute. Samples were collected for ten (10) hours. Two (2) samples were collected outdoors and one (1) was collected indoors. 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 analyzer according to NIOSH Method 6009. A copy of the analytical laboratory report is attached.

The sampling locations were: the 1st floor lobby, Outdoor-Plaza, and the Roof.

The blank-corrected mercury concentrations are shown in the table.

LOCATION	MICROGRAMS PER SAMPLE	MICROGRAMS/M^3 DETECTED	MICROGRAMS/M^3 CORRECTED
Plaza – Outdoors	0.0360	0.300	**BDL***
Lobby	0.0350	0.292	**BDL**
Roof	0.0410	0.342	**0.033**
Blank	0.0370	--	--

* Below Detection Limit

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The levels of mercury found the two samples (one indoor and one outdoor) fall below the limit of detection for the analysis when the concentrations are blank-corrected. The roof sample contained 0.033 ug/m^3 of mercury.

The established regulatory value for mercury (0.1mg/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.

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

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