NYC 9/11 Public Portal Document

ATC ASSOCIATES INC.

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February 27, 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 Vapor**
**Stuyvesant High School**
**ATC Project No. 15-19125-0246**

Dear Mr. Orlan:

ATC Associates, Inc. (ATC) is pleased to provide this report of air sampling for mercury vapor conducted on February 20, 2002, at the referenced school. The New York City Board of Education (BOE) requested this sampling at the recommendation of H. A. Bader, a consultant to the parents association.

**Scope of Work**

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. Two samples were collected indoors and one was collected on the roof. 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 report is attached.

Wagdi Abdelshahid and Tenzin Namgyal, Industrial Hygienists from ATC's New York City office, collected the samples.

**Results**

Mercury (Hg) was detected in one sample (#Hg3, roof) at a level that was greater than the blank. When blank-corrected, the Hg concentration is reduced to 0.000052 $mg/m^3$, which is less than 15% of the original concentration. Hg concentrations in the other three samples were aless than that found in the blank.

There are currently no federal ambient air standards for mercury. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL) for mercury is 0.1$mg/m^3$. This is considerably above the levels that were detected or that would otherwise be expected in a school/office setting.

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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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