



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

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Public Health Service

Centers for Disease Control  
and Prevention (CDC)  
National Institute for Occupational  
Safety and Health (NIOSH)  
1095 Willowdale Road  
Morgantown, WV 26505-2888

May 20, 2005  
HETA 2001-0445  
Interim Letter V

Mike Winkler, President  
Administrative and Residual Employees Union Local 4200  
705 North Mountain Road, Suite A211  
Newington, Connecticut 06111

Dear Mr. Winkler:

Included with this memo are hard copies of presentations to be presented by NIOSH personnel at the American Thoracic Society meeting to be held in San Diego, California on May 22-24, 2005 that will report data from the 25 Sigourney Street Building. The information to be presented will consist of data from the 2001 and 2002 surveys, most of which has been communicated to you in previous interim letters or at the stakeholders meeting held at the building on February 3, 2005.

New information in the current material has come about through additional analyses of the data and is as follows:

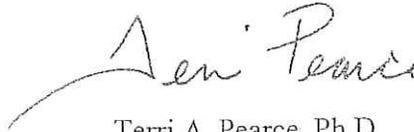
1. Results for three markers of respiratory inflammation analyzed in the exhaled breath condensate collected in 2002 demonstrated a relationship between the amount of IL-8 and specific symptom or physician-diagnosed asthma reports. Concentration of IL-8 was also associated with the level of specific molds (*Aspergillus*, *Penicillium*, and *Eurotium*) in floor dust.
2. As we reported at the February stakeholders meeting, the level of culturable fungi in floor dust demonstrated a relationship to health symptoms experienced by occupants. Additional analyses of the 2002 data have found that levels of culturable fungi, ergosterol (a fungal component), and endotoxin (a bacterial component) measured in dust collected from floors and chairs in individual workstations demonstrated a relationship to our case definitions for persons with asthma or hypersensitivity pneumonitis.

Components of the dust remaining in the old carpeting or in areas not yet thoroughly clean appears to have been the source of many health symptoms in the building. The additional analyses strengthen the recommendations made at the February stakeholders meeting that building maintenance continue their more aggressive cleaning program and that DPW continue to seek funds to replace carpeting on all floors that have not been previously been recarpeted.

We are currently working on an interim letter that will update the reports issued on the 2001 and 2002 data. In addition, we are preparing the interim letter providing the analyses of data from the August 2004 site visit.

If you have any questions regarding the information provided in this interim letter, please do not hesitate to contact us at 1-800-232-2114.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Terri Pearce". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Terri A. Pearce, Ph.D.  
Industrial Hygienist  
Respiratory Disease Hazard Evaluation  
and Technical Assistance Program  
Field Studies Branch  
Division of Respiratory Disease Studies

cc:

Ann Bracker, UCHC/DOEM  
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