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HEALTH

Nirav R. Shah, M.D., M.P.H.
Commissioner

Sue Kelly
Executive Deputy Commissioner

December 3, 2013

Michael G. Malloy
Department of Environmental Health and Safety
SUNY New Paltz
Service Building Room 110A
75 South Manheim Boulevard
New Paltz, NY 12561

Re: PCB Testing Report

Dear Mr. Malloy:

As requested, we reviewed the November 7, 2013 "Wipe and Air Sampling Report-2013 at SUNY New Paltz" prepared by Professional Services Industry Inc. (PSI). The results showed that levels of PCBs in 20 wipe samples (five buildings) were below the established cleanup criterion for surfaces of 1.0 microgram per 100 cubic centimeter surface area (1.0 mcg/100 cm²). The air sampling results showed that the levels of PCBs in only two of the 12 air samples (five buildings) were slightly above our re-occupancy criterion of 1.0 microgram per cubic meter of air (mcg/m³). These two air samples were collected in the Parker Theatre transformer room and were 2.3 and 2.0 mcg/m³. Results of two wipe samples collected from this room were non-detect at less than 1.0 mcg/100 cm².

Given the slight exceedances of the re-occupancy criterion and the isolated nature of the transformer room (e.g., not a student residence, locked and thus not accessible to students or unauthorized employees, limited in-room time of authorized employees), the exceedances do not pose a health risk to students or employees of SUNY New Paltz.

We concur with the recommendations to continue to restrict access to any of the transformer vault rooms and to include another application of encapsulant to the Parker Theatre transformer room. We also agree with your recommendation to evaluate (via a literature review) alternative encapsulating products, as the US EPA has done work on the effectiveness of encapsulating material (<http://www.epa.gov/pcbsincaulk/caulkresearch.htm>) and may have identified some useful alternatives. The effectiveness of another coat of encapsulating material should be evaluated after the material has been applied.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (518) 402-7810 or via email at mjh03@health.state.ny.us.

Sincerely,



Michael J. Hughes
Bureau of Toxic Substance Assessment

cc: K. Gleason
D. Luttinger, Ph.D.
B. Devine
C. Thurnau

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