

INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE REPORT

Brush College Elementary School

Report to: Vonnie Good, Risk Management

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On-site: November 27 – 30, 2012

Report: December 5, 2012

PURPOSE

Radon monitoring was done to measure the background levels in all classrooms, offices and staff work rooms that are in contact with the ground or below ground level.

TEST METHOD

Radon Air-Chek short-term test devices were used in each location by placing the device 5-6 feet above the floor where it is not in direct contact with airflow from the ventilation system, windows or exterior doors. Staff were requested to keep windows closed during the testing.

These short-term devices work by trapping room air inside the grains of charcoal with the devices, meaning that live radon gas is being captured. The analysis is performed by measuring the radiation emitted from the charcoal, which is proportional to the amount of radon that was present in the room air.

The testing occurred from Tuesday, November 27 to Friday, November 30 during normal and routine operation of the school.

EPA RADON GUIDELINES

The EPA has set an action level of 4.0 pCi/L (picoCuries per liter) for schools. If classrooms or buildings have radon levels at or above 4.0 pCi/L, EPA recommends that schools take action to reduce the level. These actions include:

Step 1. If your result is 4 pCi/L or higher take a follow-up test (Step 2) to be sure.

Step 2. Follow up with either a long-term test or a second short-term test:

RESULTS

No test locations were above the EPA's action level of 4.0 picoCuries per liter (pCi/l).

BACKGROUND ON RADON

Radon is a gas that occurs in nature, seeping up from the earth. It is odorless, colorless and tasteless. Radon comes from the natural breakdown, or radioactive decay, from uranium 238, and produces radon. The half-life of an individual element is relatively short. Within two weeks, about 90% of a given amount of radon gas will be gone. However, the actual health concern is for the radon decay products, called radon progeny, which carry a small static charge that allows their attachment to water vapor, dust and smoke particles in the air.

The Radon progeny can become lodged in the lung tissue when they are inhaled, and it is these particles' further radiation decay that is associated with potential lung cancer effects.

Radon can seep into buildings or schools through cracks in slab floors or porous cinderblock. It can enter around loose-fitting drainage pipes or through sump pumps.

The US EPA has set an action level of 4.0 pCi/L. At or above this level of radon, the EPA recommends that corrective measures should be taken to reduce the exposure to radon gas.

CONTROL OF RADON LEVELS IN SCHOOLS

The major control mechanism for lowering radon levels within school buildings is use of dilution ventilation. If the amount of outside air delivered into a building increases, the radon levels should decrease.

Sample Data Attached

Radon test result report for:
BRUSH COLLEGE MAIN

Kit #	Room Id	Started	Ended	pCi/L	Analyzed
4588372	1	2012-11-27 @ 8:00 am	2012-11-30 @ 8:00 am	2.4	2012-12-04
4588382	10	2012-11-27 @ 8:00 am	2012-11-30 @ 8:00 am	0.6	2012-12-04
4588383	11	2012-11-27 @ 8:00 am	2012-11-30 @ 8:00 am	0.6	2012-12-04
4588384	12	2012-11-27 @ 8:00 am	2012-11-30 @ 8:00 am	0.6	2012-12-04
4588385	13	2012-11-27 @ 8:00 am	2012-11-30 @ 8:00 am	0.8	2012-12-04
4588386	14	2012-11-27 @ 8:00 am	2012-11-30 @ 8:00 am	1.2	2012-12-04
4588387	15	2012-11-27 @ 8:00 am	2012-11-30 @ 8:00 am	0.9	2012-12-04
4588375	16	2012-11-27 @ 8:00 am	2012-11-30 @ 8:00 am	1.2	2012-12-04
4588373	17	2012-11-27 @ 8:00 am	2012-11-30 @ 8:00 am	1.0	2012-12-04
4588364	18	2012-11-27 @ 8:00 am	2012-11-30 @ 8:00 am	1.4	2012-12-04
4588363	19	2012-11-27 @ 8:00 am	2012-11-30 @ 8:00 am	0.7	2012-12-04
4588374	2	2012-11-27 @ 8:00 am	2012-11-30 @ 8:00 am	1.0	2012-12-04
4588366	21	2012-11-27 @ 8:00 am	2012-11-30 @ 8:00 am	1.5	2012-12-04
4588367	22	2012-11-27 @ 8:00 am	2012-11-30 @ 8:00 am	1.1	2012-12-04
4588388	26	2012-11-27 @ 8:00 am	2012-11-30 @ 8:00 am	1.4	2012-12-04
4588376	3	2012-11-27 @ 8:00 am	2012-11-30 @ 8:00 am	2.2	2012-12-04
4588377	4	2012-11-27 @ 8:00 am	2012-11-30 @ 8:00 am	0.7	2012-12-04
4588378	5	2012-11-27 @ 8:00 am	2012-11-30 @ 8:00 am	1.0	2012-12-04
4588379	6	2012-11-27 @ 8:00 am	2012-11-30 @ 8:00 am	0.6	2012-12-04
4588380	7	2012-11-27 @ 8:00 am	2012-11-30 @ 8:00 am	1.1	2012-12-04
4588389	8	2012-11-27 @ 8:00 am	2012-11-30 @ 8:00 am	0.7	2012-12-04
4588381	9	2012-11-27 @ 8:00 am	2012-11-30 @ 8:00 am	< 0.3	2012-12-04
4588365	COUNSELOR 1	2012-11-27 @ 8:00 am	2012-11-30 @ 8:00 am	3.2	2012-12-04
4588371	COUNSELOR 2	2012-11-27 @ 8:00 am	2012-11-30 @ 8:00 am	2.7	2012-12-04
4588362	CUSTODIAN	2012-11-27 @ 8:00 am	2012-11-30 @ 8:00 am	1.8	2012-12-04
4588361	HEALTH	2012-11-27 @ 8:00 am	2012-11-30 @ 8:00 am	0.6	2012-12-04
4588368	KITCHEN	2012-11-27 @ 8:00 am	2012-11-30 @ 8:00 am	0.7	2012-12-04
4588360	OFFICE	2012-11-27 @ 8:00 am	2012-11-30 @ 8:00 am	< 0.3	2012-12-04
4588369	PE	2012-11-27 @ 8:00 am	2012-11-30 @ 8:00 am	1.8	2012-12-04
4588390	SPEECH	2012-11-27 @ 8:00 am	2012-11-30 @ 8:00 am	2.6	2012-12-04
4588370	STAFF ROOM	2012-11-27 @ 8:00 am	2012-11-30 @ 8:00 am	1.2	2012-12-04

December 4, 2012

**** LABORATORY ANALYSIS REPORT ****

Radon test result report for:
BRUSH COLLEGE MAIN
MAIN

Kit #	Room Id	Started	Ended	pCi/L	Analyzed
4588359	PRINCIPAL	2012-11-27 @ 8:00 am	2012-11-30 @ 8:00 am	0.6	2012-12-04

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