



STATE OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Flanigan Square 547 River Street Troy, New York 12180-2216

Richard F. Daines, M.D.
Commissioner

Wendy E. Saunders
Executive Deputy Commissioner

November 26, 2008

Mr. James Parla
Superintendent
Island Trees School District
74 Farmedge Road
Levittown, New York 11756

RE: Island Trees High School
Levittown, Nassau County

Dear Mr. Parla:

This letter responds to your request for the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) to review sampling information from the student accessible portions of the Island Trees High School basement. You asked that we evaluate the safety of its continued use and provide you with our conclusion.

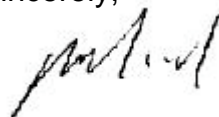
My staff, working with staff from the Nassau County Department of Health, and consultants for the Island Trees School District inspected and collected samples in the school basement area. The School District's consultants and Nassau County staff each collected samples, which were then analyzed by separate labs. Samples were collected based on our assessment of where foot traffic or air movement may have caused lead-contaminated dust from the tunnel areas to settle. One sample in a storage hallway contained lead at a level exceeding the most stringent US EPA clearance standard. This area was recleaned and no lead was detected in any of the follow-up samples. Lead levels in all the other samples were below that US EPA standard.

We understand that the pipe tunnel remains secured, with the door double-locked to restrict access, and the remaining lead-contaminated sand in the tunnel is encapsulated with plastic. The NYSDOH continues to recommend that only emergency-use of the pipe tunnel occur until a final remedy is in place.

Based on our review, and consistent with our previous correspondence (September 11, 2008 and August 27, 2008) the NYSDOH believes that the student accessible portions of the basement can be used for normal, current school activities without concern for exposures to lead.

If you have any health-related questions concerning this project, please feel free to contact me at (518) 402-7880 or Sharon McLelland of my staff at the same number.

Sincerely,



Donald W. Miles, Section Chief
Long Island/ATSDR
Bureau of Environmental
Exposure Investigation

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