Dear Building Occupants:

On October 22, 1986, President Reagan signed into law the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA Public Law 99-159). The law requires the U.S. EPA to develop regulations which provide a comprehensive framework for addressing asbestos problems in public and private elementary and secondary schools. This new rule requires schools to inspect for asbestos hazards in school buildings, and implement actions in a timely fashion.

This letter is to inform you that the asbestos inspection has been conducted and information has been included in this notification pertaining to the results of the inspection and what hazards they may pose to the building occupants of Lincoln Parish Schools.

INTRODUCTION

Asbestos is defined as a white or gray mineral silicate of calcium and magnesium which may be woven or shaped into acid-resisting, nonconducting, fireproof articles.

Asbestos fibers have been used in the United States since the early 1900's and has a wide variety of applications. Adding this mineral fiber to products such as insulations, cement products, gaskets and seals, building materials and fireproof materials proved to add long life, durability and resilience to deteriorating factors in the application for which it was chosen. There may never be a product on the market that will prove as valuable in the world again.

HEALTH EFFECTS

Due to the friability of asbestos fibers (potential to be crushed or pulverized by hand pressure) and released into the air, it poses an extremely high health hazard. The small fibrous particles have the tensile strength three (3) times that of stainless steel and can be inhaled into the lungs and accumulated over a period of years.

A common asbestos-related disease is called Asbestosis. It is caused by fibers taken into the lungs and trapped in the lining. This trapping causes scarring of the lung. The scarring impairs the elasticity of the lung tissue and hampers its ability to exchange gases. This leads to inadequate oxygen intake into the blood. The disease restricts breathing leading to decreased lung volume and causes increases of resistance in the airways (shortness of breath). Although a slowly progressive disease, its symptoms may take 15 to 30 years to develop, but it has no cure and is irreversible.

RESULTS OF INSPECTION TO DETERMINE ASBESTOS CONTAINING MATERIALS IN LINCOLN PARISH SCHOOLS.

1. Was Asbestos discovered during the inspection?
   (X) YES  ( ) No

2. Where are the Asbestos containing materials located?
   See Management Plan.

3. What type of building materials were determined to contain Asbestos?
   See Management Plan.

4. What potential hazards are related to the Asbestos Containing Materials located in the school building?
   Pipe insulation may become hazardous if areas are disturbed. Vibrations dampeners may become delaminated or damaged from air movement inside the duct work.

5. What steps will be taken to remove the potential hazards in the school building (s) an are the methods as safe as possible?
   The LEA must develop an operation and maintenance plan to protect the identified asbestos and personnel who may come into contact. If the LEA chooses to remove the asbestos, trained workers must conduct the abatement (removal).

6. What can we do to avoid the Asbestos dangers?
   The locations of asbestos containing materials are in a relatively safe and undisturbed non-functional space and should not pose any immediate dangers.

7. What steps can we as building occupants take to recognize and report damage?
   The maintenance and custodians will most likely come into contact with the asbestos containing materials.

8. How are the custodial and maintenance personnel dealing with these materials to prevent fiber release?
   An operation and maintenance program will be implemented prior to any repair of potential disturbance of the asbestos containing material.

9. What will be done periodically and over the long term to protect the health and safety of building occupants?
   A qualified trained in-house person designated by the LEA required conducting surveillance of the asbestos locations every 6 months and documenting the findings in the Management Plan. An EOA accredited inspector must re-inspect every 3 years.

This notification has been prepared by an U.S. Environmental protection Agency (U.S. EPA) accredited Asbestos Inspector and Management Planner and also meets (State) requirements to fulfill all Asbestos Hazard and Emergency Response Act (AHERA) guidelines.

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