

# WATERSTONE ENVIRONMENTAL, INC.

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Los Angeles Unified School District Office of Environmental Health and Safety 333 South Beaudry Street, 21st Floor Los Angeles, California 90017-5156

Re: Air Testing Results for Castlebay Lane Elementary School in Porter Ranch, California

Waterstone Environmental, Inc. (Waterstone) is pleased to submit this letter report detailing the results of recent air testing and sample collection at the Castlebay Lane Elementary School located at 19010 Castlebay Lane, Porter Ranch, California.

Waterstone has collected air samples and conducted real time air monitoring using various handheld monitors. This report summarizes the results of air sample analysis for samples collected on February 22, 2016.

## Sample Collection and Analysis

Sample collection consisted of 8-hour samples collected in summa canisters in the main office. The summa canisters were placed in the breathing zone and allowed to sit undisturbed for a period of 8 hours.

One summa canister sample was delivered to Quantum Analytical Services Inc., a laboratory certified by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) and the California Air Resources Board (CARB). The sample was submitted for analysis of sulfur compounds by SCAQMD Method 307-91, and hydrocarbon speciation by modified EPA 18. The complete laboratory report with analysis results is attached.

One summa canister sample was delivered to Air Technology Laboratories, Inc., a laboratory accredited by the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (NELAP). The sample was submitted for analysis of BTEX by EPA Method TO-15. The complete laboratory report with analysis results is attached.

Real time air monitoring was conducted in indoor and outdoor spaces using a Jerome J631X for hydrogen sulfide detection; dräger tubes for benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, xylenes, and mercaptans; a multi RAE monitor to measure percent lower explosive limit (%LEL) as an indicator of the potential presence of methane; and an ultra RAE monitor used to measure volatile organic compounds (VOCs) as an indicator of the potential presence of benzene as well as for taking benzene specific reading using a benzene sensor tube.

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## Analytical Results

The sample IDs created to refer to Castlebay Lane Elementary School are designated with a "CB" in the sample ID. The analytical results for Castlebay Lane Elementary School presented in the attached laboratory reports are summarized as follows:

- No sulfur compounds were detected at concentrations above laboratory detection limits.
- Methane was detected at a maximum concentration of 2,840 ppbv in an 8-hour sample. This concentration is below the environmental screening limits for methane of 500,000 ppbv used by the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) and 1,000,000 ppbv used by the National Institute for Occupational Safety (NIOSH). Additionally, methane was not detected at a concentration that requires a fire contingency plan (8,800,000 ppbv) as required by the Los Angeles County Building Code. Methane was also not detected at a concentration higher than 3,000 ppbv which is the South Coast Air Quality Management District/California Air Resources Board (SCAQMD/CARB) criteria for 12-hour or 24-hour averages. This methane criterion was set primarily to make sure that the SS-25 well has not resumed leaking and is not a level related to an adverse health affect.
- ➤ The maximum concentration of benzene detected in an 8-hour sample was 0.084 ppbv which is below the 8-hour and chronic REL of 0.9 ppbv and the SCAQMD/CARB criteria of 1 ppbv for a 12 to 24-hour average.
- ➤ Toluene was not detected above the laboratory detection limit of 0.05 ppbv which is below the environmental screening limits for toluene of 9,640 ppbv used by OEHHA for a 1-hour acute exposure.
- Ethylbenzene was not detected above the laboratory detection limit of 0.05 ppbv which is below the environmental screening limit for ethylbenzene of 450 ppbv used by OEHHA for a chronic (lifetime) exposure.
- > Xylenes (sum of p-xylene, m-xylene and o-xylene) were not detected above the laboratory detection limit of 0.05 ppbv which is below the environmental screening limit for xylene of 4,970 ppbv used by OEHHA for a 1-hour acute exposure.



Analyte	Maximum On-site Detection (ppbv)	Environmental Guidance Level (ppbv)	Environmental Guidance Levels Description
Sulfide Compounds	None (8-hour)	30 (Hydrogen Sulfide)	California Ambient Air – 1 hour and OEHHA Acute REL (42 ug/m³)*
		7 (Hydrogen Sulfide)	OEHHA Chronic REL (10 ug/m³)*
		10 (Hydrogen Sulfide)	SCAQMD/CARB Criteria (grab, hourly average, and 12 or 24-hour average)
Mercaptans	None (8-hour)	5	SCAQMD/CARB Criteria (grab, hourly average, and 12 or 24-hour average)
Methane	2,840 (8-hour)	500,000	DTSC Site-Specific Screening Level (for ambient indoor and outdoor air). <a href="http://www.hawaiidoh.org/references/CalEPA%202005b.pdf">http://www.hawaiidoh.org/references/CalEPA%202005b.pdf</a>
		1,000,000	NIOSH maximum recommended safe methane concentration for workers during an 8-hour period. http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/ipcsneng/neng0291.html SCAQMD/CARB Criteria (grab)
		4,000	SCAQMD/CARB Criteria (hourly average)
		3,000	SCAQMD/CARB Criteria (12 or 24-hour average)
Ethane, Ethylene	None (8-hour)	1,000,000	NIOSH maximum recommended safe ethane concentration for workers during an 8-hour period. <a href="http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/ipcsneng/neng0266.html">http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/ipcsneng/neng0266.html</a>
		2,000,000	NIOSH maximum recommended safe ethylene concentration for workers during an 8-hour period. http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/ipcsneng/neng0475.html
Other Hydrocarbon Speciations by EPA 18	None (8-hour)	1,950 (Hexane)	OEHHA Chronic REL (7,000 ug/m³)*
Benzene	0.084 (8-hour)	8	OEHHA Acute REL (27 ug/m³)*
		0.92	8-hour and chronic OEHHA RELs (3 ug/m³)*
		2	SCAQMD/CARB Criteria (grab and hourly average)
		1	SCAQMD/CARB Criteria (12 or 24-hour average)
Toluene	None (8-hour)	9,640 80	OEHHA Acute REL (37,000 ug/m³)* OEHHA Chronic REL (300 ug/m³)*
Ethylbenzene	None (8-hour)	450	OEHHA Chronic REL (2,000 ug/m³)*
Xylenes	None (8-hour)	4,970 160	OEHHA Acute REL (22,000 ug/m³)* OEHHA Chronic REL (700 ug/m³)*

<sup>\*</sup> OEHHA RELs listed in micrograms per cubic meter (ug/m³) have been converted to ppbv using the molecular weight of each specific chemical. <a href="http://oehha.ca.gov/air/allrels.html">http://oehha.ca.gov/air/allrels.html</a>



## Real Time Monitoring Results

The real time monitoring logs are attached. In-field air monitoring results are summarized as follows:

- ➤ Methane (as indicated by %LEL), VOCs, benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylenes were not detected during field monitoring.
- ➤ Hydrogen sulfide was detected at a maximum concentration of 0.003 ppmv, well below the OEHHA acute REL of 0.03 ppmv.

The majority of the regulatory limits we are comparing against are Reference Exposure Levels (RELs) developed and published by California's Office of Environmental Health Hazards (OEHHA). OEHHA is one of six agencies under the umbrella of the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA). OEHHA's overall mission is to protect and enhance public health and the environment by scientific evaluation of risks posed by hazardous substances.

OEHHA evaluates health effects of chemicals found in indoor air, including developing Reference Exposure Levels for use with indoor air exposure scenarios. OEHHA participates in a number of inter-Agency activities designed to evaluate indoor air quality health issues and to move California toward safer indoor air quality. OEHHA provides health-related assistance to health officers.

#### Conclusions and Recommendations

Methane was compared to the DTSC Site-Specific Screening Level for ambient indoor and outdoor air, the NIOSH maximum recommended safe methane concentration for workers during an 8-hour period, and the SCAQMD/CARB criteria for 12-hour or 24-hour averages and found to be detected only at acceptable concentrations.

As shown in the table above, the maximum on-site detections are well below the published environmental regulatory limits based on the exposure time specified in the regulatory limit.

Sincerely,

Attachments

Elizabeth Gonzalez, P.E. Principal Engineer

Waterstone Environmental, Inc.

SO OFFESTOWN

Grace Rinck, CIH

Principal Industrial Hygienist

**Aurora Industrial Hygiene**