# E VIRONMENTAL SULTANTS, LLC

# ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS, LLC

Illinois Office

#6 Meadow Heights Professional Park Drive Collinsville, Illinois 62234 Phone (618) 343-3590 Fax: (618) 343-3597

August 24, 2016

Mr. Roger L. CayCe, Deputy Superintendent of Operations St. Louis Public Schools – Operations Department 801 North 11<sup>th</sup> Street St. Louis, Missouri 63101

Subject: Results of Water Testing for Lead Content

Site(s): Active School Buildings - District Wide

St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Mr. CayCe:

In response to national events and increased awareness, St. Louis Public Schools (SLPS) authorized Environmental Consultants, LLC (EC) to perform lead testing of water sources throughout active school buildings within the district. Initial sampling began on March 2, 2016 and all active school buildings were screened prior to the start of the 2016-2017 school year. Follow up testing remains ongoing as part of the district's Lead Program and response action protocols.

Sampling was performed by trained and licensed personnel in accordance with Federal, State and local regulations. EC is licensed by the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (MDHSS) as a Lead Abatement Contractor authorized to perform water testing services. Certifications for EC are attached as Appendix C to this document.

### Introduction

Federal guidance suggests that children age six (6) and under, as well as expectant mothers, are at the highest risk from harmful lead exposure. The growing bodies of children and infants absorb more lead than the average adult. Exposure to lead can be attributed to numerous sources to include paint, soil (exhaust from leaded gasoline), consumer products, and water. SLPS began remediation of lead-based paint within its schools in 2001 and has continued to address lead hazards throughout recent bond issues. "Child Occupied Areas" — defined as classrooms and common spaces associated with students under the age of seven (7) are part of the district's Lead Abatement Program and are subject to routine inspections and interim controls in accordance with Federal regulations. These documents are available for public review.

In light of national events, the issue of water quality has become an increasing concern. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) regulates the nation's drinking water in public water supplies (PWS) under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). The USEPA estimates that approximately 10,000 schools and childcare facilities maintain their own water supply. USEPA further estimates approximately 90,000 public schools are not regulated under the SDWA – this includes SLPS. As a proactive approach to protecting students and staff, SLPS voluntarily agreed to test drinking water sources at all active schools for lead content.

SLPS receives their drinking water from the City of St. Louis. As a PWS, the City of St. Louis is regulated under the SDWA by the USEPA. As such, the City of St. Louis is required to issue a "Consumer Confidence Report" (CCR) which includes testing for lead in drinking water. The 2015 CCR indicates that all samples collected from the City of St. Louis PWS were below the USEPA Action Level of 15.0 parts per billion (ppb). A copy of the 2015 City of St. Louis CCR is included as Attachment A to this document.

Lead enters drinking water when service pipes containing lead corrode. The amount of lead in water varies depending on factors such as the condition of pipes, water temperature, settling period, acidity, and types of minerals present within the water system. As such, controlling the lead content in drinking water is a facility management challenge. Although lead containing plumbing products are prohibited today, buildings constructed prior to 1986 are at greater risk of lead exposure due to the presence of lead in building construction materials.

## Methodology, Reporting and Allowable Standards

Sources of potable water that may be used as drinking water by students and staff within all active school buildings were sampled for lead content. Potential sources include drinking fountains and sinks. Sinks associated with kitchens and teacher lounges were included during sampling.

Due to budget and time constraints, the sampling timeline was prioritized to address children under the age of seven (7). The first areas to be tested were the Parent Infant Interactive Programs (PIIP) at Roosevelt, Sumner, and Vashon. The Early Childhood Centers at Stix and Wilkinson followed the PIIP facilities. Upon completion, the elementary schools, middle schools and high schools were then tested.

All samples were collected on a "first draw" basis. "First draw" is achieved by allowing the water system to rest for at least six hours prior to sampling in order to collect any existing debris or settlement within the sample. The intent of this sampling is to replicate "worst case scenario" conditions.

After sample collection, samples were immediately delivered to Teklab, Inc. located in Collinsville Illinois following strict chain of custody procedures. Teklab is a NELAP and State of Missouri accredited laboratory specializing in drinking water analysis. Certifications for Teklab are attached as Appendix D to this report.

The analytical sensitivity utilized for the analysis of the water samples submitted identified a reporting limit (RL) of 1.0 microgram of lead per liter (µg/L). This reporting value equates to 1.0 parts per billion (ppb) of lead.

The USEPA action level for lead in drinking water is 15.0 ppb for PSW. The USEPA document titled "Lead in Drinking Water at Schools and Child Care Facilities" last updated November 9, 2015 identifies an action level for drinking water collected from a plumbing fixture as 20.0 ppb. As a precautionary measure to ensure public safety, SLPS has set an internal action level of 10.0 ppb.

The stricter action level set forth by SLPS is intended as a screening tool to allow the facilities team to better proactively manage water sources within their buildings. As corrosion of plumbing lines is an ongoing concern, utilizing a stricter internal action level allows the facilities team to focus on faulty systems before they deteriorate into major problems.

## Summary of Results

Water sources at all active school buildings have been initially screened for lead content. Follow up sampling of select water sources remains ongoing in response to the implementation of response actions.

#### Initial test results indicate:

Number of active school buildings: 72
Total number of water sources sampled: 797
Sources reported at 20 ppb or greater: 45
Sources reported at 10 ppb to 19.9 ppb: 43

Please note that a summary of follow up sampling sites and locations will be provided under separate report following the implementation of response actions.

SLPS has classified all water sources in to three priorities. Following are the priority classifications set forth by SLPS:

Response Action
Remove from service.
Identify source of lead content.
Replace fixture.
Re-test source prior to use.
Re-test annually.
Remove from service.
Re-test source.
If re-test remains over 10 ppb,
follow priority 1 protocols.
Inspect and place on routine preventative maintenance program. Re-test in three (3) years or when conditions change.

## Priority 1 and 2 Schools - Water sources above 10 ppb

Of the seventy-two (72) active schools within SLPS, thirty-two (32) of these facilities reported a water source in excess of the internal action level of 10 ppb. As such, response actions are in the process of implementation. Follow-up testing will take place after the implementation of response actions prior to occupant use.

Following is a list of schools and the specific water source in excess of 10 ppb:

School	Water Source	Result (ppb)
AESM Middle School	Fountain near Room 104	14.7
	Fountain near Nurse's Office	24.9
Beaumont High School	Fountain near Room 213	19.4
	Fountain near Room 215	40.7
	Fountain near Room 324	54.7
	Fountain near Room 325	154.0
	Fountain near Room 311	35.1
Busch Middle School	Fountain near Room 127	43.5
Carr Lane Middle School	Fountain near Room 123	13.8
Carver Elementary School	Fountain near Room 101	12.3
	Fountain 2nd Floor Across Utility Closet	12.6
	Sink Room 101	22.9ª

Clay Elementary School	Fountain near Room 206	16.0
	Fountain near Room 208	17.1 <sup>b</sup>
	Fountain near Room 102- South	43.9b
	Fountain near Room 104- North	26.8b
Clyde C Miller Career Academy	Kitchen Sink - North	12.5
	Kitchen Sink - South	14.1
	Serving Sink - South	11.8
	Kitchen Sink - Center	45.9
	Room 127 Sink - Center Aisle South	55.1
	Room 127 – Sink	22.6
Compton Drew Elementary School	Kitchen Sink- Large	24.6
	Kitchen Sink- Small	10.1ª
Cote Brilliante Elementary School	Fountain near Room 205	10.4
Fanning Middle School	Fountain 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor South	16.4
	Fountain 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor North	280.0
	Fountain 1st Floor North	148.0
Gallaudet Elementary School	Music Room Sink	45.4
	Fountain near Room 106	115.0
	Fountain near Room 103	107.0
Gateway Middle School	Fountain near Library - Low	13.0
Gateway STEM High School	Kitchen Sink - Center	12.6
	Kitchen Sink - North by Restroom	243.0
	Fountain near Room 223	20.1
Henry Elementary School	Fountain 1st Floor North	13.2
	Fountain South by Cafeteria	29.0ª
Herzog Elementary School	Kitchen Sink	11.3
Hickey Elementary School	Kitchen Sink	31.8b
Laclede Elementary School	Fountain Basement - East, Low	12.6
	Fountain Basement - Southwest Wall	67.8
- term	Kitchen Sink	10.8 <sup>b</sup>
Langston Elementary School	Fountain near Room 309	11.0
	Kitchen Sink – Main	168.0
	Kitchen Sink - South	228.0
	Room 318 Sink	63.0
Long Middle School	Fountain near Room 208	13.6
Mann Elementary School	Fountain 1st Floor East High	13.4
Meramec Elementary School	Kitchen Sink	14.5
	Fountain 1st Floor East	12.0
	Fountain Gym East, High	14.7 <sup>b</sup>
Nahad Chapman Elementary School	Building 3, Room 304 Sink	12.4
	Building 3, Room 303 Sink	11.0
	Fountain Multi-Purpose Room	22.9

Northwest High School	Fountain Girls Gym	15.5
	Kitchen Sink - Northeast	21.3
	Kitchen Sink - Southeast	97.1
	Kitchen Sink - Southern Back	202.0
	Fountain PE Storage Room	109.0
Peabody Elementary School	Kitchen Sink	31.8
	Fountain 1st Floor South	12.8
	Fountain 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor North	11.6b
Roosevelt High School	Kitchen Sink	10.3
	Fountain 1st Floor South, East	72.3
	Kitchen Sink - Central East	94.2ª
	Kitchen Sink - West	20.2ª
Shenandoah Elementary School	Fountain 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor West	61.3
	Fountain Library High	30.5
	Fountain Basement East, Low	10.3b
	Kitchen Sink	19.96
33 00 33 00	Fountain- 1st Floor West	64.3b
Sigel Elementary School	Fountain 2nd Floor West	33.5
	Fountain 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor East	34.5
	Fountain 1st Floor East	62.3
	Fountain 1st Floor West	32.4
	Fountain Basement East	16.7
200	Kitchen Sink	21.6
Sumner High School	Cafeteria Sink- Northeast Corner	26.4
40-11-12-12-12-12-12-12-12-12-12-12-12-12-	Sink near Room 206	19.4
Vashon High School	Kitchen Sink - East Serving Line	16.6
	Kitchen Sink - West Serving Line	13.9
	Kitchen Sink - Southwest Serving Line	11.3
	Kitchen Sink - East Serving Line, Wall	17.1
	Kitchen Sink - Southeast Serving Line	39.1
Walbridge Elementary School	Fountain 3rd Floor South	15.6
Woerner Elementary School	Kitchen Sink	10.9
Yeatman Middle School	Office Sink	16.3

Legend

Superscript <sup>a</sup>	An initial sample collected at a follow up visit
Superscript b	A re-sample collected from a source originally was re-sampled at the Risk Assessor's discretion

# Priority 3 Schools - No water sources above 10 ppb

Of the seventy-two (72) active schools within SLPS, forty (40) of these facilities did not report any water sources above the internal action level of 10 ppb. In addition, none of the Parent Infant Interaction Program (PIIP) sites within the district tested above 10 ppb.

Following are the forty (40) schools testing below 10 ppb:

Jefferson Elementary School
Kennard Elementary School
Lexington Elementary School
Lyon @ Blow Elementary School
Madison Elementary School
Mallinckrodt Elementary School
Mason Elementary School
McKinley High School
Metro High School
Monroe Elementary School
Mullanphy Elementary School
Nance Elementary School
Nottingham High School
Oak Hill Elementary School
Shaw Elementary School
Soldan High School
Stix Early Childhood Center
Washington Montessori School
Wilkinson Early Childhood Center

In addition, the Parent Infant Interaction Programs (PIIP) at Roosevelt High School, Summer High School and Vashon High School tested less than 10 ppb.

Specific sample results, presented on a school-by-school basis, are included as Appendix B to this report.

Humboldt Elementary School

Woodward Elementary School

#### Conclusions

In light of national attention to the issue of water quality, SLPS authorized EC to conduct water sampling at all active school buildings. As a precautionary measure, SLPS selected a more stringent actionable level of 10 ppb in lieu of the USEPA action levels of 15 and 20 ppb. Based on these more stringent guidelines, lead in water concerns were identified within thirty-two (32) of the seventy-two (72) SLPS active school buildings.

At this time, all water sources testing at 10 ppb or above have been removed from service. These sources are subject to additional maintenance activities and response actions prior to use. Before being put back in to service, EC recommends these sources be re-tested to confirm compliance with acceptable levels. In addition, all sources will be subject to an ongoing maintenance program and re-testing at appropriate intervals.

EC is pleased to provide this information to SLPS and we appreciate the opportunity to provide quality environmental consulting services. Please call us at (618) 343-3590 if you have any questions or to arrange a meeting to discuss.

Sincerely,

Environmental Consultants, LLC

Jeffry M. Faust

Principal

James P. Yasitis

Principal