



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

AUG 4 - 2011

Dr. Craig Witherspoon
Superintendent, Birmingham City Schools
2015 Park Place
Birmingham, Alabama 35203

Subject: U.S. EPA Assessment of Walter Coke Voluntary Investigation and Cleanup Report for Hudson School – dated June 17, 2011


Dear Dr. Witherspoon:

The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency's Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Division has completed its review of the Voluntary Investigation and Cleanup Report for the Hudson School, dated June 17, 2011 (Report), submitted by Walter Coke, Inc. The Report included details of the soil investigation activities at the Hudson School which took place during July 13-28, 2009, and later, from August 31 to September 1, 2010, after construction of the new Hudson K-8 School was completed. School soil remediation work described in the Report was completed by Walter Coke on June 8, 2011.

The soil remediation consisted of removing 52,000 cubic feet of soil to a depth of 2 feet and replacing it with clean backfill. EPA observed some of the soil remediation. After careful review of the Report, the EPA's RCRA Division has concluded that based on Walter Coke's analytical data, the soils at the school do not exceed a human health risk level of 1 in 10,000 increased cancer risk for Benzo(a)pyrene toxicity equivalents or a hazard index of 1 for arsenic.

The EPA and Walter Coke would be happy to meet with you or others to answer any questions you may have with regard to this investigation and cleanup at the Hudson K-8 School. Brian Holtzclaw, Community Engagement Coordinator in the RCRA Division, can help you arrange this meeting. He may be reached directly at (404) 562-8684 or by electronic mail at holtzclaw.brian@epa.gov. If you would like to contact Walter Coke directly, you may call Michael Monahan at (205) 745-2628 or by electronic mail at mmonhaham@waltercoke.com.

EPA will be soon posting the Walter Coke cleanup report and EPA's correspondence on this matter at http://www.epa.gov/region4/foia/readingroom/rcra_community/walter.html. If you have any technical questions about the information, please contact Karen Knight, Chief, Corrective Action Section at (404) 562-8885 or by electronic mail at knight.karen@epa.gov. You can also contact me directly at (404) 562-8569.

Sincerely,

for Jeffrey T. Pallas
Acting Deputy Director
RCRA Division

cc: Bob Morgan, Director, Construction, Birmingham City Schools
Jesse Daniels, Principal, Hudson K-8 School
Edward Maddox, School Board Representative for District 4
Vivian Starks, President, Colledgeville Neighborhood Association
Maxine Herring Parker, Councilor – District 4, Birmingham City Council
Metz Duites, ADEM
Sonja Favors, ADEM