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April 18, 2011

TO: ALL Contacts Concerning Declared Disasters

FROM: Mina Shehee, Ph. D. Acting Branch Head
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SUBJECT: Asbestos Requirements During Hazard Mitigation and Public Assistance Projects

This letter is to provide you with some of the basic information needed to comply with current asbestos regulations that affect Hazard Mitigation and/or Public Assistance projects following a disaster. If you are planning a Hazard Mitigation and/or Public Assistance project then you must complete the following steps.

- (1) An asbestos survey is required in the affected area to determine the presence of asbestos prior to conducting a Hazard Mitigation and/or Public Assistance project.
- (2) Asbestos surveys can only be conducted by North Carolina accredited asbestos inspectors.
- (3) All suspect friable and non-friable asbestos containing building materials (ACBM) must be tested for asbestos content. Any material having laboratory results greater than 1% asbestos is considered asbestos-containing.
- (4) The notification form, DHHS 3768, "Asbestos Permit Application and Notification for Demolition/Renovation" is required to be submitted to the HHCU before demolition activities begin. This form is required ten working days before the demolition activity can begin. Even if no asbestos was identified during the asbestos survey, this form is still required ten working days before the demolition activity begins.

Asbestos can be found in over 3,000 building products. Some common products containing asbestos include: insulation on boilers, steam pipes, water pipes and ducts; cementitious siding or roofing shingles; ceiling tile (all forms); asphalt and felt roofing applications; wallboard and mud joint compound; sprayed-on or trowelled-on surface materials on walls or ceilings; insulation (wall and ceiling); floor tiles and sheet vinyl floor coverings, mastic, etc.



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Location: 5505 Six Forks Road, 2nd Floor, Room D-1 • Raleigh, N.C. 27609

- Friable ACBM contains greater than 1% asbestos that, when dry, may be crumbled, pulverized, or reduced to powder by hand pressure.
- Non-Friable ACBM contains greater than 1% asbestos that, when dry, cannot be crumbled, pulverized, or reduced to powder by hand pressure.
- Regulated ACBM contains greater than 1% asbestos and includes friable asbestos. It also includes non-friable ACBM that will be or has been subject to sanding, grinding, abrading, or that has a high probability of becoming or has become crumbled, pulverized, or reduced to powder by the forces expected to act on the material in the course of a demolition activity.
- Demolition is defined as the wrecking or taking out of a load-supporting structural member of a facility together with any related handling operations or the intentional burning of a facility. This includes acquisition and elevation projects and applies to residential houses, public, commercial, and industrial buildings. If regulated ACBM is identified and will be disturbed, then the asbestos is required to be removed by North Carolina accredited individuals before the demolition activity can begin.

The information provided in this letter does not include all of the asbestos requirements needed to stay in compliance. For a copy of the notification form DHHS 3768, a listing of accredited individuals, or a copy of the asbestos regulations, please contact our office or visit our web site at <http://www.epi.state.nc.us/epi/asbestos.html>

The Health Hazards Control Unit can be contacted at (919) 707-5950.

MS/paw