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# HSWMR

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**TO:** Laymon Gray  
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**DATE:** 01 September 2022

**SUBJECT:** FSU Chemical Sciences Laboratories - Radon Evaluation

The Chemical Sciences Laboratories building (CSL) at Florida State University (FSU) has been evaluated for radon content due to indoor air quality questions that have been raised regarding other buildings on the FSU campus. From August 23 to August 25, 2022, radon measurements were collected at six locations at CSL. The 48-hour charcoal canister placement and collection were conducted under the supervision of a state-certified radon measurement specialist, in accordance with standard protocols of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the Florida Department of Health (FDOH). None of the radon values at any location were greater than the 4 picoCurie/liter (pCi/L) USEPA Action Level (range 0.3 to 0.7 pCi/L). Results for the August 2022 sampling event are summarized in the attached table.

Detectable radon levels are ubiquitous throughout the state, with most areas of Florida exhibiting low radon. Outdoor levels typically are in the 0.4 to 0.5 pCi/L range, and indoor levels regularly range from 1 to 2 pCi/L. Radon comes from decay of natural radium, and elevated indoor radon is related to local geology. Radon often is present in clays, phosphate rock, and igneous rocks, like granite, and can originate from bedrock far below land surface. Because it is a naturally occurring substance, exposure is common and unavoidable.

The data summarized herein reflect a condition that is consistent with many buildings in Florida and throughout the United States, and the radon conditions at the Chemical Sciences Laboratories building do not represent a health concern. Further investigation regarding radon is not recommended at this time.

**RADON MEASUREMENTS - Chemical Sciences Laboratories Building, Florida State University**

| <b>Location</b> | <b>Sampling Dates</b> | <b>Number of Results</b> | <b>Min<br/>pCi/L</b> | <b>Max<br/>pCi/L</b> | <b>Notes</b>         |
|-----------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| First Floor     | 23 to 25 Aug 2022     | 6                        | 0.3                  | 0.7                  | No results > 4 pCi/L |

pCi/L = picocuries per liter