## HSWMR

Hazardous Substance & Waste Management Research, Inc.

2976 Wellington Circle West Tallahassee, Florida 32309 Phone: (850) 681-6894 Fax: (850) 906-9777 www.hswmr.com

FROM:	Dr. Christopher M. Teaf
	President & Director of Toxicology

- TO: Laymon Gray Associate Director Environmental Health & Safety Florida State University
- **DATE:** 01 February 2023
- SUBJECT: FSU Central Utilities Plant Radon Evaluation

The Central Utilities Plant (Central Utilities) 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 January 9 to 11, 2023, radon measurements were collected at seven (7) locations at Central Utilities. The 48-hour charcoal canister measurements were collected by a state-certified radon contractor, 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 <0.4 to 2.5 pCi/L). Results for the January 2023 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 Central Utilities Plant do not represent a health concern. Further investigation regarding radon is not recommended at this time.

## **RADON MEASUREMENTS - Central Utilities Plant, Florida State University**

Location	Sampling Dates	Number of Samples	<b>Min</b> pCi/L	<b>Max</b> pCi/L	Notes
1st Floor	09 to 11 January 2023	5	0.5	2.5	No results > 4 pCi/L
2nd Floor	09 to 11 January 2023	2	<0.4	1.8	No results > 4 pCi/L

pCi/L = picocuries per liter