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DATE: 17 November 2023

SUBJECT: FSU Coastal and Marine Laboratory Buildings - Radon Evaluation

The FSU Coastal and Marine Laboratory buildings (Marine Lab) of Florida State University (FSU) have been evaluated for radon content due to indoor air quality questions that have been raised regarding other buildings on the FSU main campus in Tallahassee. From October 30 to November 1, 2023, radon measurements were collected at 42 locations from ten buildings at the Marine Lab. 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). All of the radon values in all of the buildings were less than the 4 picoCurie/liter (pCi/L) USEPA Action Level (ranging from below detectable levels at <0.4 pCi/L to 0.4 pCi/L). Results for the October 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 FSU Coastal and Marine Laboratory buildings do not represent a health concern. Further investigation regarding radon is not recommended at this time.

RADON MEASUREMENTS - FSU Coastal and Marine Laboratory Buildings, Florida State University

Location	Sampling Dates	Number of Samples	Min <i>pCi/L</i>	Max <i>pCi/L</i>	Notes
Ground Contact Floors	30 Oct to 01 Nov 2023	42 samples in 10 buildings	<0.4	0.4	No results > 4 pCi/L Action Level

pCi/L = picocuries per liter

Buildings Evaluated

- Classroom
- Dorm Bldg 1 & 2
- Dorm Bldg 4 & 5
- Dorm Bldg 5
- Hatchery Greenhouse
- Pump House
- Graduate Office
- Carpenter Shop
- Administrative Building
- Dive Program