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SUBJECT: FSU Whitcomb Band Storage Building - Radon Evaluation

The Whitcomb Band Storage Building (Whitcomb) 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 September 19 to 21, 2023, radon measurements were collected at a single location in the relatively small Whitcomb Building. The 48-hour charcoal canister placement and collection were conducted under the supervision of 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). The result for the original September 2023 sampling location was 5.2 picoCurie/liter (pCi/L), slightly greater than the USEPA Action Level of 4 pCi/L.

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 reflected a condition that is consistent with many buildings in Florida and throughout the United States, and the radon conditions at Whitcomb did not represent a health concern. However, due to the initial detection at slightly greater than the Action Level, Whitcomb was retested in January 2024. The attached table presents the original September 2023 result as well as the January 2024 continuous radon measurement (CRM) retest (2.8 pCi/L). Based on the average of the two tests not exceeding the Action Level, further investigation or other action regarding radon at the Whitcomb Band Storage Building is not deemed necessary at this time.

RADON MEASUREMENTS - Whitcomb Band Storage Building, Florida State University

Location	Sampling Dates	Number of Samples	Min pCi/L	Max pCi/L	Notes
1st Floor	19 to 21 Sep 2023	1	5.2	5.2	Single result > Action Level 4.0 pCi/L
1st Floor (CRM retest of same location)	17 to 19 Jan 2024	Retest result 2.8 pCi/L; average of two tests equal to Action Level; 1st floor cleared			

pCi/L = picocuries per liter

Shaded results indicate the retest clearance sampling.