A.B.E. Radiation Measurements Laboratory

Division of Health Physics Associates, Inc.
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July 11, 2025

Andrew Mather
Director of Support Services
Southern Lehigh School District
5775 Main Street
Center Valley, PA 18034

re: **Radon Sampling**, Southern Lehigh Central Office,
5775 Main St., Center Valley, PA 18034.
Date of test: July 7 to 9, 2025
Test Placed & Retrieved by: Josh Bowers, ID 9085
Invoice #: 8362 B

Dear Mr. Mather:

The following is a report of the radon sampling conducted at the referenced school building. Radon sampling was performed over a 2-day period using activated charcoal manufactured by F & J, model RA40V, following US EPA screening test protocols. The charcoal analysis and testing procedures have passed the US EPA's Radon Measurement Proficiency Testing program and A.B.E. Radiation Measurements Lab is certified by the PA DEP for radon testing and radon laboratory analyses (certification numbers 0048 and 0050). Our last quality assurance spikes required by the PA DEP, which were sent to an approved DEP chamber showed a percent deviation of 5.2 %; May 17 to 19, 2025.

The attached table lists each sample location and the net radon concentrations in picocuries per liter (pCi/l). The term "picocuries per liter" is a measure of the radon gas concentration in the air. Proper screening testing in schools should be conducted under conditions simulating those occurring during normal occupied hours. However, ABE Radiation Measurements Laboratory has no control over the degree of ventilation in a building during the test or how the charcoal is treated in our absence.

All structures will contain some radon. Typically, ground and sub-ground level floors will have the highest levels in a multi-story building. Indoor concentrations will depend on the amount of radon seepage into the building and the air exchange rate of the ventilation system. Radon seepage into a building is variable, depending on atmospheric and indoor environmental conditions. Thus, indoor radon concentrations can fluctuate from day to day and over a 24-hour period. When samples are taken for a short time period, it is difficult to know if they represent the average or a high or low point in the range of fluctuation. However, the closed condition and the requirement of at least 25% fresh make-up air in school buildings generally results in short term tests being reasonably close to the annual average provided the wind and barometric pressure at the time of the test was reasonably average and that the HVAC system(s) were/was operated in an "occupied mode", and the windows were kept closed.

There are no government regulations setting occupational limits or guidelines pertaining to naturally occurring indoor radon levels in school buildings. However, the US EPA and the PA DEP suggest the guideline of 4 picocuries per liter (pCi/l) as the lower limit of its Remedial Action Guideline and recommend that radon concentrations of 4 pCi/l and above be reduced as far below this level as practicable. It should be noted that this guideline is based on a 75 percent occupancy rate. Thus, there is typically a lower total dose potential for schools, compared to residences for the same air concentrations because of lower occupancy times.

However, because of public concern over radon and the fact that staff and students may have elevated radon levels in their homes, the school administration may want to follow the 4.0 pCi/l guideline used for private homes.

Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer, after smoking. The U.S. EPA and the Surgeon General strongly recommend taking further action when the radon test results are 4.0 pCi/l or greater. The national average indoor radon level is about 1.3 pCi/l. The higher the radon level the greater the health risk. Even buildings with very high radon levels can usually be reduced below 4.0 pCi/l. For further information about reducing elevated radon levels please refer to the "Pennsylvania's Consumer's Guide to Radon Reduction."

CONCLUSIONS

There is no radon reduction system in the building.

The radon concentrations measured during the test were all below the PA DEP screening guideline of less than 4.0 pCi/l. Remedial action to reduce the radon concentration is not indicated based on the results of this test.

No tampering or deviation from required test conditions has been observed.

Because of the variability of indoor radon air concentrations over the course of a year, follow-up bi-annual testing is recommended to better estimate the annual average air concentrations.

The results of this test are valid only for the date, time and conditions under which the test was conducted and only for the client ordering the test.

Should you wish to discuss additional testing or this report, please do not hesitate to contact us at (610) 756-4153.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you.

Sincerely,

A La Mastra

A. LaMastra
Certified Health Physicist

The Radon Certification Act requires that anyone who provides any radon-related service or product to the general public must be certified by the PA DEP. You are entitled to evidence of certification from any person who provides such services or products. You are also entitled to a price list of services or products offered. All radon measurements data will be sent to the Department as required in the act and will be kept confidential. If you have any questions, comments or complaints concerning persons who provide radon-related services, please contact the Department at the Bureau of Radiation Protection, DEP, PO Box 8469, Harrisburg, PA 17105-8469, 717-783-3594 or 800-237-2366.

A.B.E. RADIATION MEASUREMENTS LABORATORY

RADON TESTING RESULTS

Southern Lehigh Central Office
5775 Main Street
Center Valley, PA 18034

Test dates: July 7 to 9, 2025

Canister Number	Location	Start Time	End Time	pCi/l	Duplicate Average
197570	Staff Development	12:59	11:00	0.7	
197571	Staff Dev (duplicate)	12:59	11:00	0.5	0.6
197572	Blank	N/A	N/A	<0.5	
197573	Stairs to Bsmt	13:05	11:02	2.6	
197574	Super. Office	13:07	11:03	1.2	
197575	Registration	13:09	11:04	2.6	
197576	Sub Super	13:10	11:08	2.1	
197577	HR	13:12	11:06	0.6	
197578	Lunch Room	13:13	11:06	1.5	
197579	Accounting	13:15	11:01	0.5	
197580	Main Office	13:17	11:01	<0.5	