July 22, 2011

Liz Houser, Deputy Director
State Board of Equalization
450 N Street
Sacramento, CA 94279-0060

Dear Ms. Houser:

This letter is to confirm the results of recent testing of the mechanical ducts in supply fan units 3 and 4. As a result of that investigation which revealed a very common type of fungal spore and, in conjunction with current indoor air monitoring/sampling which is reporting levels well below the data recorded outdoors, the Department of General Services (DGS) does not believe the remediation of the fungal growth identified within the HVAC system is necessary at this time. However, DGS will implement a comprehensive air monitoring program to ensure there is no health risk to staff housed within the building. DGS will work with your staff to establish this monitoring program.

This direction is based on the information stated in the July 15, 2011, letter to the Board of Equalization (BOE) from *HygieneTech* which states,

"Subsequent to the HVAC duct inspection and reactivation of the supply fans, air samples were collected on June 19 using a Zefon brand Bio-Pump™ equipped with Zefon Air-O-Cell™ cassettes. The airborne spore count data presented in Table 21106001-15 showed mostly common fungal spore types outdoors such as Alternaria, ascospores, asidiospores, Cladosporium, colorless spores typical of Penicillium and Aspergillus species, rusts, smuts, and Torula, with Cladosporium predominating. In the indoor areas tested, the data showed low airborne concentrations of common fungal spores that included one or more of the following: basidiospores, Cladosporium, Epicoccum, rusts, and/or smuts—data that are entirely normal and consistent with data recorded by HygieneTech in the past in the BOE building. The distribution of fungal spore types detected in the surveyed areas was consistent with those found outdoors, and the overall data within the tested areas were well below the overall data recorded outdoors. ***Overall, these data were considered unremarkable and are not believed to pose a health risk beyond that posed by the outdoor environment where exposures to airborne fungi are expected."***

In addition, as noted on the Emlab P&K (laboratory) website, *Cladosporium* is often found indoors, usually in lesser numbers than outdoors and is commonly found on the surfaces of fiberglass duct liners in the interior of supply ducts. As you may be aware, the DGS is conducting sampling of supply fan units 1 and 2 and additional sampling in

supply fan units 3 and 4, along with additional Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) testing of the mechanical duct system and filters to determine if the condition of the remaining ducting system is similar to initial testing. The PCR testing will also assist in indentifying the genetic makeup of the *Cladosporium*. The ability to accurately identify and measure the degree of *Cladosporium* growth in the mechanical duct system is crucial to an effective mold assessment.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Nik Karlsson, Chief (A), Project Management Branch, at (916)376-1692.

Sincerely,

Theodore P. Park
Deputy Director (A)

cc Fred Klass, Director, Department of General Services
Esteban Almanza, Chief Deputy Director, Department of General Services
Angela Verbaere, Chief, Building and Property Management Branch, Real Estate Services Division, Department of General Services
Nik Karlsson, Chief (A), Project Management Branch, Real Estate Services Division, Department of General Services
Mike Moore, Project Director, Project Management Branch, Real Estate Services Division, Department of General Services