

### INITIAL RADON AIR SAMPLING OF MERRILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FOR KLAMATH COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 2845 GREENSPRINGS DRIVE, KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON

### INTRODUCTION

Coleman Creek Consulting, Inc. (CCC) was retained by Klamath County School District (KCSD) to perform radon air sampling as required by State Statute ORS 332.166-167. KCSD is required to perform complete radon air testing of District owned and occupied facility buildings by January 1, 2021. The purpose of the initial radon air sampling was to collect radon air samples from all regularly occupied rooms within school buildings, with the exception of storage, restrooms, kitchen, locker rooms, and compare analytical results with the EPA recommended "Action Level" concentration for radon. Short-term radon air sampling was selected for this project.

### **RADON INFORMATION AND HEALTH EFFECTS**

Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that is produced by natural deposits of uranium in soil, and is found world-wide. Uranium naturally decays into Radium, and Radium can produce Radon gas. Radon gas can travel up through soil and enter buildings in contact with soil. Radon gas entering a building may become concentrated in the lowest part of the building in areas with little fresh air mixing. If radon is inhaled into lungs, particle decay processes can release radiation, potentially damaging lung tissue, and over time leading to lung cancer. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has estimated that Radon is the primary cause of lung cancer among non-smokers. EPA recommends reducing the concentration of Radon in indoor environments to below the Action Level of 4.0 pCi/L (pico-curies per Liter of air).

### **INITIAL RADON AIR SAMPLING**

David W. Fawcett of CCC trained KCSD employees, including school custodians in radon sampling procedures December 4, 2020. Bruce Tapley, Merrill Elementary School (MES) Custodian placed radon air test kits in the MES buildings at the beginning of the day, December 7, 2020. A total of 24 locations were sampled according to guidelines established in the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) "Testing for Elevated Radon in Oregon Schools, A Protocol and Plan", dated 2016. Mr. Tapley returned to MES December 10, 2020, at the beginning of the day, and collected all radon test kits placed for sampling. See Radon Air Sample Record Sheet (page 4) for locations of all areas sampled. All samples collected were packaged by Mr. Fawcett, and sent overnight to Air Chek, Inc., in Mills River, North Carolina for analysis.

1



### LABORATORY ANALYSIS RESULTS

The radon air test kit samples collected from MES building were reported ranging from <0.3 to 1.3 pCi/L (picocuries per liter of air). A complete listing of laboratory results and locations is found in the Air Chek, Inc. Laboratory Analysis Report in Appendix A.

### **QUALITY ASSURANCE**

To ensure that test results are reliable and accurate, quality assurance samples, including duplicate test kits (placed in same room), blank test kits (not sampled at all), and spike sampling (exposing test kits to a measured amount of radon prior to laboratory submission) were all employed during Radon sampling. The number of duplicate, blank, and spike test kits utilized during sampling followed OHA testing protocol guidelines.

#### **DUPLICATE TEST KITS**

Two duplicate test kits were placed during initial test kit sampling. See duplicate designation on the Radon Air Sample Record Sheet. The two duplicate test kit sets were reported with the following paired results <0.3/0.8 pCi/L and <0.3/0.7 pCi/L. Both paired duplicate sets were reported with a concentration <2.0 pCi/L, indicating Radon concentrations were too low to apply the Relative Percent Difference test.

### **BLANK TEST KITS**

One blank test kit was submitted to Air Chek with the other MES Radon test kits. The blank test kit was reported with <0.3 pCi/L. The blank test kit was reported none detected for Radon.

### **RADON RESULTS AND FUTURE ACTIONS**

The 2016 OHA Testing of Elevated Radon in Oregon Schools Protocol and Plan describes future steps to take based on initial Radon sample results. The following is a description of recommended actions based on Radon concentrations reported.

- 1. If <2.0 pCi/L Radon is reported, ORS 332.166-167 requires Radon re-test every 10 years.
- 2. If 2.0 pCi/L to 4.0 pCi/L Radon is reported, consider lowering the Radon concentration in the room.
- 3. If 4.0 pCi/L to 8.0 pCi/L Radon is reported, perform follow-up Radon measurement in the affected room(s) using a long-term test. Conduct over the school year as much as possible. If that result is equal to or greater than 4.0 pCi/L, Radon concentration in the room should be lowered.
- 4. If equal to or greater than 8.0 pCi/L Radon is reported, conduct a second short-term test and average the result with the initial Radon result. If the average result of the two short-term tests is equal to or greater than equal to or greater than 4.0 pCi/L, Radon concentration in the room should be lowered.



### DISCUSSION OF INTIAL RADON SAMPLING RESULTS

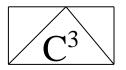
The initial Radon short-term sampling in Merrill Elementary School building was reported with Radon concentrations ranging from <0.3 to 1.3 pCi/L. All Radon test kit samples were reported < 2.0 pCi/L, indicating that a re-test should be performed in 10 years.

CCC appreciates the opportunity to provide initial radon air testing and consulting to Klamath County School District.

Sincerely,

All, Fancett

David W. Fawcett Director of Consulting Operations



Coleman Creek Consulting, Inc.

### **RADON AIR SAMPLE RECORD SHEET**

SCHOOL: Merrill Elementary School ADDRESS: 406 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Merrill, Oregon

DATE: SAMPLER: 12-07-20/12-10-20 Bruce Tapley

				START	STOP
SERIAL #	BUILDING	Duplicate	LOCATION	TIME	TIME
9418633	Main		1 – Speech Office	0710	0710
9418634	Main		2 – Small Office	0713	0712
9418635	Main		3 – Room 3	0718	0714
9418636	Main		4 – Room 4	0720	0716
9418637	Main		5 – Room 1	0723	0718
9418638	Portable		6 – Modular	07 27	0723
9418639	Main		7 – Cafeteria	0733	0726
9418640	Main		8 – Nurse Office	0735	0728
9418641	Main		9 – Library	0737	0731
9418642	Main		10 – Room 5	0740	0733
9418643	Main	Yes	10 – Room 5	0744	0734
9418644	Main		11 – Room 7	0746	0735
9418645	Main		12 – Room 8	0750	0737
9418646	Main		13 – Room 9	0756	0738
9418647	Main		14 – Room 10	0800	0740
9418648	Main		15 – Room 11	0803	0741
9418649	Main		16 – Room 6	0807	0743
9418650	Main		17 – Gym	0809	0744
9418651	Main		18 – Gym	0811	0746
9418652	Main		19 – Staff Room	0814	0748
9418653	Main		20 – Office	0816	0750
9418654	Main	Yes	20 – Office	0818	0751
9418656	Main		21 – Principal Office	0820	0752
9418657	Main		22 – VP Office	0822	0753
9418658	Main		23 – Health Room	0825	0755
9418659	Main		24 – PE Office	0827	0757

### Comments: Spike Sample = 9418660 Blank Sample = 9418655

# **APPENDIX** A

# AIR CHEK LABORATORY ANALYSIS REPORT

#### December 24, 2020

### **\*\* LABORATORY ANALYSIS REPORT \*\***

Radon test result report for: MERRILL 20570900

Kit #	Room Id	Started	Ended	pCi/L	Analyzed
9418633	SPEECH	2020-12-07 @ 7:00 am	2020-12-10 @ 7:00 am	$1.2 \pm 0.4$	2020-12-15
9418634	SM OFFICE	2020-12-07 @ 7:00 am	2020-12-10 @ 7:00 am	$1.3 \pm 0.5$	2020-12-15
9418635	3	2020-12-07 @ 7:00 am	2020-12-10 @ 7:00 am	$0.8 \pm 0.5$	2020-12-15
9418636	4	2020-12-07 @ 7:00 am	2020-12-10 @ 7:00 am	< 0.3	2020-12-15
9418637	1	2020-12-07 @ 7:00 am	2020-12-10 @ 7:00 am	$0.5 \pm 0.4$	2020-12-15

Air Chek 1936 Butler Bridge Rd, Mills River, NC 28759-3892 Phone: (828) 684-0893 Fax: (828) 684-8498

#### December 24, 2020

### **\*\* LABORATORY ANALYSIS REPORT \*\***

### Radon test result report for: MERRILL 20570901

Kit #	Room Id	Started	Ended	pCi/L	Analyzed
9418638	MODULAR	2020-12-07 @ 7:00 am	2020-12-10 @ 7:00 am	< 0.3	2020-12-15

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### **\*\* LABORATORY ANALYSIS REPORT \*\***

Radon test result report for: MERRILL 20570900

Kit #	Room Id	Started	Ended	pCi/L	Analyzed
9418639	CAFETERIA	2020-12-07 @ 8:00 am	2020-12-10 @ 7:00 am	< 0.3	2020-12-15
9418640	NURSE	2020-12-07 @ 8:00 am	2020-12-10 @ 7:00 am	$0.7 \pm 0.5$	2020-12-15
9418641	4	2020-12-07 @ 8:00 am	2020-12-10 @ 8:00 am	$0.6 \pm 0.4$	2020-12-15
9418642	5	2020-12-07 @ 8:00 am	2020-12-10 @ 8:00 am	< 0.3	2020-12-15
9418643	5	2020-12-07 @ 8:00 am	2020-12-10 @ 8:00 am	$0.8 \pm 0.4$	2020-12-15
9418644	6	2020-12-07 @ 8:00 am	2020-12-10 @ 8:00 am	< 0.3	2020-12-15
9418645	7	2020-12-07 @ 8:00 am	2020-12-10 @ 8:00 am	< 0.3	2020-12-15
9418646	8	2020-12-07 @ 8:00 am	2020-12-10 @ 8:00 am	$0.6 \pm 0.4$	2020-12-15
9418647	10	2020-12-07 @ 8:00 am	2020-12-10 @ 8:00 am	< 0.3	2020-12-15
9418648	11	2020-12-07 @ 8:00 am	2020-12-10 @ 8:00 am	$0.6 \pm 0.4$	2020-12-15
9418649	6	2020-12-07 @ 8:00 am	2020-12-10 @ 8:00 am	< 0.3	2020-12-15
9418650	GYM	2020-12-07 @ 8:00 am	2020-12-10 @ 8:00 am	< 0.3	2020-12-15
9418651	GYM	2020-12-07 @ 8:00 am	2020-12-10 @ 8:00 am	< 0.3	2020-12-15
9418652	STAFF	2020-12-07 @ 8:00 am	2020-12-10 @ 8:00 am	$1.2 \pm 0.4$	2020-12-15
9418653	OFFICE	2020-12-07 @ 8:00 am	2020-12-10 @ 8:00 am	< 0.3	2020-12-15
9418654	OFFICE	2020-12-07 @ 8:00 am	2020-12-10 @ 8:00 am	$0.7 \pm 0.4$	2020-12-15
9418655	OFFICE	2020-12-07 @ 8:00 am	2020-12-10 @ 8:00 am	< 0.3	2020-12-15
9418656	PRINCIPAL	2020-12-07 @ 8:00 am	2020-12-10 @ 8:00 am	< 0.3	2020-12-15
9418657	VP	2020-12-07 @ 8:00 am	2020-12-10 @ 8:00 am	$1.0 \pm 0.4$	2020-12-15
9418658	HEALTH	2020-12-07 @ 8:00 am	2020-12-10 @ 8:00 am	$0.6 \pm 0.4$	2020-12-15
9418659	PE OFFICE	2020-12-07 @ 8:00 am	2020-12-10 @ 8:00 am	$0.8 \pm 0.4$	2020-12-15
9418660	PE OFFICE	2020-12-07 @ 8:00 am	2020-12-10 @ 8:00 am	$15.9 \pm 1.0$	2020-12-15

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## **APPENDIX B**

### **BOWSER-MORNER RADON SPIKE EXPOSURE**

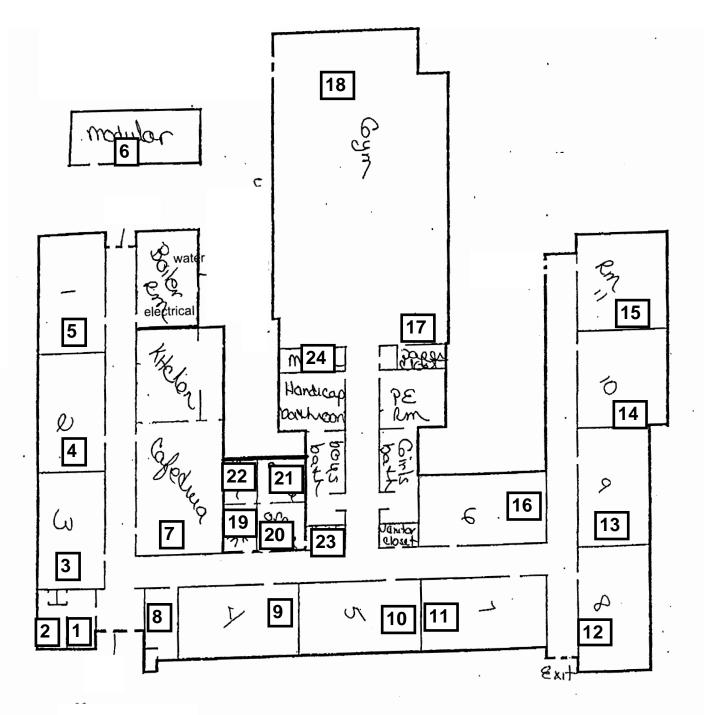
EXPOSURE IN BOWSER-N	IORNER RADON CHAMBER
CLIENT Coleman Creek Cons	hlting, Inc. Job Number 198582
NOMINAL Conditions: Radon Conc_25.7	pCi/L Rel. Hum <u>59.9</u> % Temp. <u>79.3</u> H
Date Start: 12/4/20 Date Stop: 12/7/29	Date Start: Date Stop:
Time Start: $0923$ Time Stop: $0923$ (Group 1)	Time Start: Time Stop:
Device No.'s: (12) Char Bags- 9417935, 9417970, 9418007, 941221, 0, 9418007,	Device No.'s:
9418060,9418096,9418127, 9418163,9418190,9418226, 9418250,9418286,9418321	· · ·
R.S Loft	
Date Start: Date Stop: 12/1/20	Date Start: Date Stop:
Time Start: <u>0927</u> Time Stop: 0927	Time Start: Time Stop:
(Group 2) Device No.'s: (13) Char Boas- 9418370,9418418,9418465,9418500,	Device No.'s:
9418566,9418601,9418660,9418660,9418660,9418695,9418771,9418747,	
9418806 9418846 9418875	
R5 Right	
Date Start: Date Stop:	Date Start: Date Stop:
Time Start: Time Stop:	Time Start: Time Stop:
Device No.'s:	Device No.'s:
	·
	·

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Note: All times are in 24-hour (military) notation, Eastern Standard Time (EST) Background = 7 μR/h Elevation = 820 ft **APPENDIX C** 

## **RADON SAMPLING LOCATION DIAGRAM**

# MERRILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL Radon Sample Locations



12 = Radon Test Kit Location