



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES
Bureau for Public Health
Commissioner's Office

Bill J. Crouch
Cabinet Secretary

Rahul Gupta, MD, MPH, MBA, FACP
Commissioner
State Health Officer

May 25, 2018

The Honorable Jeff S. Sandy, Cabinet Secretary
West Virginia Department of Military Affairs and Public Safety
1900 Kanawha Blvd., East
Building 1, Room W-400
Charleston, West Virginia 25305

Dear Secretary Sandy:

The Bureau for Public Health (BPH) has reviewed the Limited Mold Inspection reports prepared for the Anthony Correctional Center by Inspect Rite Services. The first report was prepared following an inspection on November 16, 2016. The second, most recent report, was prepared following an inspection conducted May 9, 10, and 18, 2018.

BPH is in agreement with the conclusions and recommendations contained in the May report based upon the information that was available for review. The May report did not contain laboratory analytical reports or a facility floor plan with testing locations identified. The report presents findings indicating the presence of very high levels of mold, but most concerning is the presence of *Stachybotrys* mold spores in multiple areas of Building A including the Medical Unit, Unit Management, and Hallway B. In these areas, spores were found on select surfaces as well as airborne. The report notes that the presence of *Stachybotrys* warrants special precautions due to mycotoxins produced by the organism that may cause adverse health effects.

In reviewing both the 2016 and 2018 Inspect Rite Services' reports, a substantial overall increase in the presence of mold spores in the facility and in greater concentrations was apparent in 2018. Most notable was the heavy presence of *Stachybotrys* in areas during the testing in 2018 where it was not found in the 2016. This change in mold growth is consistent with increased water damage noted during the regulatory inspection conducted by the BPH, Office of Environmental Health Services in November 2016. Significant rainfall that occurred in a short period of time during the 2016 weather event likely exacerbated the conditions of the roof leading to greater water intrusion into the facility.

BPH is in agreement with the need for special precautions associated with *Stachybotrys*, and therefore recommends the transfer of the remaining Anthony Correctional Center staff and inmates as quickly and reasonably possible. It is also recommended that any staff remaining on site be prohibited from entering Building A and only occupy other,

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uncontaminated buildings on the campus. If there is an emergency need to enter Building A, appropriate personal protective equipment should be utilized in all cases.

BPH advises against taking any furniture, bedding or materials that cannot be thoroughly cleaned. Clothing should be laundered prior to transfer into a new facility. Any nonporous materials that are transferred should be cleaned with a bleach solution or appropriate fungicide prior to movement into a new facility.

The Division of Corrections should share a copy of the inspection report with medical services staff for their review and medical recommendations regarding inmates. The report should also be made available to Anthony Correctional Center personnel, so they can share it with their personal primary care physicians. At the time a decision is made regarding the disposition of the facility (i.e., remediation or demolition), BPH will be available to provide additional recommendations and guidance.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Barbara Taylor, Deputy Commissioner, at (304) 356-4258 or via email barb.s.taylor@wv.gov and/or Walter Ivey, Director, Office of Environmental Health Services at (304) 356-4272 or via email walter.m.ivey@wv.gov.

Sincerely,



Rahul Gupta, MD, MPH, MBA, FACP
Commissioner and State Health Officer

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cc: Bill J. Crouch, Secretary
Betsy Jividen, Commissioner