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**ENVIRONMENTAL TESTING FOR ANTHRAX SPORES**

**IMPORTANT – PACKAGING REQUIREMENTS - SAMPLES MUST BE PACKAGED**

**CORRECTLY FOR TRANSPORT.**

HSE will supply sample kits with the necessary containers and packaging to be used for

transportation to HSE’s Science and Research Centre Buxton. These kits are available on

request and are free of charge. Please use this packaging.

Routinely 10g of sample is used in the analysis, although smaller samples of around 1g can be tested. Place sample in to supplied clear plastic container. Surround sealed container with absorbent material and place in green plastic container. Place green containers in a suitable box with appropriate packaging. Label outside of the box as described above.

If you are using your own packaging, please make sure each sample is packaged in a rigid

container, surrounded by absorbent material, and then double-contained in a second rigid

container with appropriate packaging before placing all samples in a strong outer box.

These samples are classified as ‘**Diagnostic Samples**’ and can be sent by Royal Mail. The

package should be labelled “BIOLOGICAL SUBSTANCE, CATEGORY B.” Adjacent to this,

inside a diamond mark whose lines are at least 2 mm thick, must appear the text “UN 3373” in characters at least 6 mm high.

**Customer Information**

Current prices are available from our website at: http://www.hsl.gov.uk/online-ordering/analytical-services-and-assays/microbiology

Samples should be dispatched together with a completed EM2 Analysis Request Form

accompanied by a How to Pay form – these can be found here: <http://www.hsl.gov.uk/online-ordering/analytical-services-and-assays.aspx> and despatched to: Sample Reception, Room L.2.51,

HSE Science and Research Centre,

Harpur Hill,

Buxton,

Derbyshire, SK17 9JN

Customers are informed by telephone or email of the results as soon as they are available and this is followed by a written report of the results within 7 working days. Typically, if a positive result is found from, for example, an area of building land, a further set of samples is submitted for testing focussed on a specific location to verify initial tests and determine the extent of contamination.

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