

NOTIFICATION OF BLASTING

PROJECT: Explosives Demolition of a 7-level office structure / Senate Building

LOCATION: 100 Senate Avenue – Camp Hill, PA

BLAST DATE & TIME: Saturday – May 27th, 2017 at 7:30 AM

DEMOLITION CONTRACTOR: MECO Demolition, Inc.

BLASTING CONTRACTOR: Pettigrew, Inc – An Explosives Demolition Contractor

IS MY BUSINESS or RESIDENCE SAFE FROM BLASTING?

Vibrations accompanied by sound effects (noises, rattles, etc.) seem far stronger than those that make no noise. A slammed door may startle you, but you would not expect it to damage your office (although it may cause a picture hanging nearby to fall). Many, many tests have proven that these types of activities in an office or industrial space have more potential for damage than the blasting that will take place in your area. Environmental and humidity changes, which make no noise, are constant and are much more likely to cause structural damage than using explosives to raze structures.

WHAT TO KNOW!

Blasting is used daily in demolition and construction throughout the world. The Senate Building is considered an excellent candidate for an explosives demolition application, it will provide a safer and more efficient means to raze the structures for the subsequent debris handling phase. The vibration values generated from the explosives are minimal and it's the actual impact of the collapsing structures that will produce any noticeable vibrations – which will be far below any threshold that would cause damage to your property. Blasting greatly reduces the time taken to accomplish the overall task of the demolition process and will minimize the disturbance (a one-time demolition window) to area residences and businesses.

DOES LOUDER MEAN STRONGER?

There is no direct relationship between the noises you hear around your property and the potential for damage. Contrary to the low frequencies of earthquakes, ground vibrations from blasting have high frequencies and are heard very easily. The levels you can hear and feel are far below those needed to cause damage. These pulses also seem stronger because they come rather suddenly and unannounced.

HOW ARE VIBRATIONS AND SOUND MEASURED?

Portable seismographs will be used to measure & record the ground vibrations and air overpressures. The specialist who does this work will analyze the recordings and store as historical data. The companies that make the instruments must adhere to government regulations on the accuracy of the instruments. That information, also, is available and will be part of the project files.

WHO REGULATES BLASTING?

There are federal, state (PA), and local government agencies that impose restrictions and laws pertaining to ground vibrations and air pressures from blasting activity. These limits are based on extensive research conducted by many agencies and specialists throughout the world. One of the leading - and most restrictive - of these agencies was the former US Bureau of Mines. The State of PA has comparable limits, which Pettigrew has understood and will comply as required by state regulations.