Monsanto

FROM (NAME & LOCATION) W. B. Papageorge - St. Louis

DATE : October 5, 1970

cc: J. Mason
H. Bergen
P. Park

SUBJECT :

REFERENCE :

TO : FILE

September 16, 1970 - Telephoned Mr. Ken Nash, Pesticide Registration Division, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 202-388-5426. He was asked by his superiors to draft an answer to a letter dated August 31, 1970 from Representative M. Gene Snyder, Fourth District of Kentucky, Room 516 Cannon House Office Building, Washington D.C. The letter was addressed to Secretary Hardin, Department of Agriculture and Secretary Richardson, Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

In his letter Congressman Snyder stated that several of his constituents, who are dairy farmers, could not sell their milk in the State of Ohio because it contained Aroclor 1254. The Congressman was seeking information which he could send to his constituents advising them how to prepare their silos to receive new silage without becoming contaminated with Aroclor 1254. He was also seeking funds for his constituents similar to those available when registered pesticides are involved in food contamination.

Mr. Nash indicated he knew nothing about Aroclors and would therefore suggest to the Congressman that his constituents should contact Monsanto Company. Mr. Nash wanted to inform Monsanto of his intent. He also stated that no funds are available since Aroclor 1254 is not a registered pesticide. I informed him we of course wish to help if our product was truly involved, but I had personal doubts about the presence and source of Aroclor. I also informed him we had never, to my knowledge, recommended that Aroclor 1254 be used in coatings which could get into food products and therefore had no unique experience regarding silo coatings.

DSW 203411

September 17, 1970 - Telephoned Mr. Nash and discussed a method for recoating the silos involved in the Kentucky milk incident. My comments are attached. Mr. Nash appreciated my offer of help but stated that he could not include this information in the letter since it was not a Department of Agriculture proposal based on their experience or studies. He then informed me that he had forwarded the letter to Mr. Robert M. Cook, Agriculture Service and Counseling Section, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 202-388-4541 for handling. He suggested I talk to Mr. Cook.

September 18, 1970 - Telephoned Mr. Cook and repeated my comments I had previously discussed with Mr. Nash. Mr. Cook was also appreciative but informed me that he had completed the drafting of an answer to Congressman Snyder. In his letter he suggested that the dairy producers contact Monsanto for advice on silo clean-up.

Mr. Cook also suggested that Monsanto contact Dr. Raymond M. Weimer, Division of Foods, Dairy and Drugs, State Department of Agriculture, 713 State Office Building, Columbus, Ohio 43215, Phone 614-469-4594, for more information concerning the presence of PCB in Ohio milk.

W B Papageorge

W. B. Papageorge

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Att.

DSW 203412

COMMENTS FROM TELEPHONE CONVERSATION
WITH K. NASH, U.S.D.A.- SEPT. 17, 1970

RE: KENTUCKY MILK

I have been thinking about Representative Snyder's request for information which will help his constituents avoid future condemnation of their milk by the State of Ohio.

We, of course, would like to help;however, we want to make it clear that we do not feel in any way legally responsible.

I understand you to say that the dairy producer is certain that the material in his milk is Aroclor 1254. If so, he must determine the source. It has been brought to our attention that some silos have been coated internally with a sealant consisting of a mixture of many materials, one of which is Aroclor 1254. If the dairyman suspects the coating, I would suggest he contact the party that formulated the sealant and applied it to determine what was in the formulation, when and how it was applied.

If he definitely determines that Aroclor 1254 is in the silo coating, he will no doubt wish to remove it. Probably the most thorough removal can be accomplished by sandblasting the surface. After removal, the surface should be recoated with a sealant which, of course, does not contain Aroclor 1254.

Disposal of the remaining silage and sand should be by burial, preferably in a properly managed landfill which is not located near any water systems.

9/17/70

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