DRAFT

Dr. Clifford M. Hardin
Vice Chairman of Board
Ralston-Purina Company
Checkerboard Square
St. Louis, Missouri 63188

Dear Dr. Hardin:

Because of our mutual concern relating to the unintended presence of polychlorinated biphenyls in Monsanto's newly formulated fire resistant industrial hydraulic fluids (Pydrauls) it appears appropriate that we review at this time the findings of our laboratories.

Attached is a table which summarizes the current information available to Monsanto. It is encouraging to note that, despite the sophisticated analytical procedures required and the slight differences in methodologies employed by the two laboratories, relatively excellent agreement prevails for those samples analyzed by both laboratories.

The results also indicate that Monsanto's reserve samples, Ralston-Purina's Sparks, Nevada sample and the sample from a sealed drum randomly selected from inventory in a public warehouse are all free of any polychlorinated biphenyls.

On the other hand, the presence of polychlorinated biphenyls in samples from the other Ralston-Purina locations is both unquestionable and disturbing.

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We have reviewed our available records to determine the types of old formula Pydrauls delivered to Battle Creek, Michigan; Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania and Sparks, Nevada in the past. These records reveal no old formula Pydrauls were ever delivered to Sparks, Nevada. Significantly, the sample of new Pydraul from this location has no detectable polychlorinated biphenyls.

The polychlorinated polyphenyls identified in the Battle Creek, Michigan and Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania samples are the types associated with the previous Pydrauls used at these locations.

After seriously reviewing this limited information it is our considered opinion that the samples analyzed were in some manner contaminated. If your company desires,our laboratory representatives would be available to continue to cooperate in the development and execution of a sampling and analysis program to conclusively establish the sources of PCB contamination.

Sincerely,

W. R. Corey
Group Director
Functional Product Groups

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