Monsanto INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS CO.

FROM (NAME & LOCATION): J. P. Mieure - T2F

DATE: October 29, 1975

SUBJECT: AROCLOR 1016 - G.E.

REFERENCE:

TO: W. B. Papageorge
B2SK

cc: R. E. Keller - T1B
J. C. Weber - B1ND
D. Wood - B2SD

G.E. is aware of the chlorodibenzofuran issue and might bring it up in their defense at the November hearings.

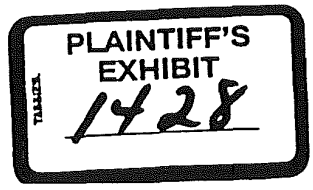
During a phone conversation today (10/29) primarily discussing analytical methodology, Bob Stenger of G.E. for the second time raised the issue of chlorodibenzofurans in Aroclor 1016. Stenger just encountered the article by Bowes, Risebrough, et al, on p. 305 of Nature, 256, 1975, reporting identification of chlorodibenzofurans in Aroclor. Stenger wondered what significance might be drawn from the data in Table I which suggest the chlorodibenzofuran content is maximum for Aroclor 1248, with lesser amounts in higher or lower chlorinated products.

I indicated my reluctance to draw any conclusions from one analysis of one or two lots of each product, particularly when using an unvalidated analytical technique for a very difficult analysis. The observed two-fold differences were not, in my opinion, statistically significant. I also pointed out to Stenger that the method would not detect chlorodibenzofurans with three or less chlorine atoms per molecule. If Aroclor 1016 contains chlorodibenzofurans, one would expect to find trichloro or lower homologs. This precludes drawing sweeping conclusions from the data in Bowes' paper.

J. P. Mieure

SS

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