

25-5 ELECTRIC LIGHT & POWER
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EPA Eyes PCBs

WASHINGTON—The Environmental Protection Agency will hold a conference this month in Chicago to investigate pollution by polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) chemical compounds. PCBs, used chiefly as fire-resistant insulating fluids in transformers and capacitors, cause reproductive defects and death in fish, birds, and mammals, according to EPA.

In 1972 industry informally agreed to restrict PCBs to closed electrical systems to reduce pollution. However, persistently high levels of PCB are being found in fish, says EPA.

The Chicago conference will examine possible sources of PCB pollution and will consider steps that might be taken to reduce the contamination.

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