re: W&C - Regional Sewage Treat. Plant

Monsanto

MONSANTO INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS CO.
Sauget, Illinois 62201
Phone: (618) 271-5835

February 3, 1986

bcc: V. T. Matteucci - B3SB
Sarah Collins -
Roy Shaneberger
Donna Vandiver

Ms. Norma Shellito
1112 St. Benedict
Cahokia, IL 62206

Dear Ms. Shellito:

Your letter to Monsanto concerning the American Bottoms Regional Wastewater Plant has been referred to me for response.

Perhaps the easiest way to comment on your request would be to explain the history of what has occurred. The Federal Clean Water Act of 1972 required all municipalities to provide secondary treatment of all wastewater by 1986. That date was later modified to 1988. The American Bottoms facility was constructed with a federal grant providing 75% of the funds. It is only with local industry aid that we have received this magnitude of federal funds. New projects only receive 55% federal participation. This project included improvements in sewer lines and pumping stations for Cahokia and East St. Louis, as approved by the Illinois and Federal EPA. The original EPA grant to the Village of Sauget was for $59,564,585 and was announced jointly by the Mayors of Cahokia, East St. Louis and Sauget, and by the Cahokia Public Water District. This facility is to treat wastewater from these cities, plus Centreville, Alorton and the Common Fields of Cahokia.

Industry in the area supported the local bond issue for construction. This "lending of credit" made the issue salable at a reasonable interest rate for all the communities.

The facility is basically built as a 50% residential/commercial and 50% industry use facility. We certainly appreciate your concern on cost and the problems of paying for waste treatment. We, too, are concerned with the higher cost of treating waste. Monsanto is currently funding its fair share of the operation of this facility and we started paying in 1984.

Recently we have agreed, as has the Village of Sauget, with a rate modification which does help the smaller users. At this time we think we are doing more than our share.

Thank you for taking the time to write.

Sincerely,

Jack W. Molloy
Plant Manager

a unit of Monsanto Company

DSW 136590

STLCOPCB4036551

1112 St. Benedict
Cahokia, Ill. 62206
January 13, 1986

General Counsel
Monsanto Company
800 N. Lindbergh Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63167

Dear Sirs:

I am appealing to you for the poor people in the communities surrounding your plant in Sauget, Illinois, to take on more of the cost of the American Bottoms Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The people in Cahokia are hard-working poor people with families in desperate need of help. Our conveyance system has been literally destroyed by the high water table. We are faced with this multi-million-dollar problem before we can fully use the treatment facility.

Most of the people feel that we have been taken advantage of by the big industries in Sauget and that our officials were misinformed at the beginning of the formation of the regional plant. We cannot pay the high rates established to pay these bonds.

Helping these communities by taking on more of the cost would be a good investment in some badly needed public relations for you. I know you spend a lot of money on advertisement and public relations for your products.

Please take this matter under advisement.

Sincerely,

/s/Norma Shellito (Allen)
1112 St. Benedict
Cahokia, Ill. 62206
618-337-8046

DSW 136591