ROCK HILL, S. C.
HERALD
D. 15,500

SEP 24 1976

$1 billion suit charges pollution

ANDERSON, S.C. (AP)—An amendment to a suit brought as a result of the contamination of Lake Hartwell with a toxic chemical names the Monsanto Company of St. Louis, Mo. as a co-defendant.

The chemical and plastics producing firm was named in the $1 billion class action suit filed by an Anderson law firm Wednesday in federal court in Greenville, S.C., on behalf of Lake Hartwell property owners in Georgia and South Carolina.

The firm is accused of negligence and "strict liability" in its production of PCBs, or polychlorinated biphenyls, according to Ronnie Cole, a member of the Anderson law firm.

Named in the original suit filed about two weeks ago was the Sangamo Electric Company of Pickens, S.C. Sangamo has been identified as a source of PCBs, suspected cancer-causing agents which have been found in dangerously high levels in Lake Hartwell. The lake separates South Carolina in the southeast from Georgia.

The attorney said Monsanto is the sole producer of PCBs, an organic chemical used by Sangamo in its manufacture of electrical capacitators.

He said the suit charges that because Monsanto produced a substance that they "knew or should have known" was dangerous, the firm is liable for damages sustained by property owners as a result of the Lake Hartwell pollution.

The suit says that the PCB-contamination has caused a lowering of property values and a loss in profit to businesses along the lake.

Cole said the action was filed on behalf of property owners whose lands touch Lake Hartwell; boating and marine dealers on the lake; residents within three miles of the lake's shoreline and all commercial businesses that sell lake-related products within three miles of the shoreline. He said three South Carolina counties—Anderson, Pickens and Oconee— and three Georgia counties— Hart, Franklin and Stepheas— are involved.

MONS 036771

THE KANSAS CITY STAR
KANSAS CITY, MO.
D. 293,781 SUN. 326,279

SEP 24 1976

Named in Suit

Anderson, S.C.—The Monsanto Company of St. Louis has been named as a codefendant in a $1 billion class action suit on behalf of Lake Hartwell property owners in Georgia and South Carolina. In an amended complaint filed in federal court in Greenville, S.C., Monsanto was accused of negligence and "strict liability" in its production of PCBs, or polychlorinated biphenyls, according to Ronnie Cole, a member of the Anderson, S.C., law firm that filed the complaint.

The suit, filed about two weeks ago, originally named the Sangamo Electric Company of Pickens, S.C.

Sangamo has been identified as a source of PCBs, which have been found in high levels in Lake Hartwell.

Cole said Monsanto is the sole producer of PCBs, a group of organic chemicals used by Sangamo in its manufacture of electrical capacitators and suspected of causing cancer. He said the suit charges that by virtue of producing PCBs, Monsanto is liable for damages sustained by property owners as a result of the Lake Hartwell pollution.

MIC
COLUMBIA, S. C.
RECORD
D. 32,000

SEP 24 1976

Monsanto Named Co-Defendant In Suit

ANDERSON (AP) — An amendment to a suit brought as a result of the contamination of Lake Hartwell with a toxic chemical names the Monsanto Company of St. Louis, Mo. as a codefendant. The chemical and plastics producing firm was named in the $1 billion class action suit filed by an Anderson law firm Wednesday in federal court in Greenville on behalf of Lake Hartwell property owners in Georgia and South Carolina.