(45)

BCC: P. G. BENIGNUS
D. A. OLSON

August 24, 1970

Mr. J. R. Rafter
Grinnell Company
260 West Exchange Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02901

Dear Mr. Rafter:

Monsanto's Aroclor 1254 and Aroclor 1260 which you use in sealed bulbs as a part of a high temperature sensing device for fire sprinkler systems do contain polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB).

There is continuing evidence that PCB's are being identified as environmental contaminants. To avoid further contamination of the environment, Monsanto Management recently decided to selectively restrict the sales of Aroclors to those applications in which the escape of PCB's to the environment can be controlled.

Extreme care must be taken to prevent Aroclors from entering a water system. Spillage and leakage must be immediately corrected and all material used in clean-up must be carefully disposed.

For the small quantities involved in your operation, I would suggest that burial in a properly managed authorized landfill would be appropriate. The material which should be buried would include such waste as rags, failed bulbs, solvents used in clean-up, oil absorbents or sweeping compounds, and containers.

Burning, if attempted, must take place at temperatures exceeding 2000°F, otherwise vaporization or partial destruction take place. With complete incineration, provision must be made to collect and neutralize the HCl gas which is formed. For your application, I do not recommend burning.

Vaporization must also be controlled. Therefore, in heating the Aroclor for easier handling, do not heat to a temperature higher than is absolutely necessary.

In my opinion, the amount of Aroclor that is released when a bulb bursts as a result of a fire is very minute and the benefits of the application far outweigh the extremely minor harm which may occur to the environment.

I hope this information is helpful to you. If I can be of further service, please let me know.

Sincerely,

W. B. Papageorge
Manager
Environmental Control

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