file PCB Idaho

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U.S. Tests Blood For PCB

ATLANTA (UPI) — Federal health investigators are testing blood samples taken from residents of Franklin, Idaho, to determine how much of the cancer-causing chemical PCB they have ingested from contaminated eggs produced by a nearby poultry farm.

In neighboring Montana, possibly contaminated eggs were pulled off supermarket shelves in 30 cities.

Technicians from the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta checked Franklin's residents today to see what effects they may have suffered from eating eggs produced at the Ritewood Egg Co., which supplies the town's eggs exclusively.

Excessive amounts of PCB were found in 350,000 chickens and millions of their eggs at the Ritewood farm. The chemical was traced to a Billings, Mont., poultry feed processor that ships its product to six states.

Managers of Montana's three largest supermarket chains removed thousands of eggs from store shelves two days ago. They said there was no proof that the eggs were contaminated, but they decided that continuing to sell the eggs was too risky.

The Montana PCB discovery followed two similar confirmations of PCB contamination in Idaho and Utah last week.