WASHINGTON Star
WASHINGTON, D.C.
D. 350,16* SUN. 336,087

OCT 6 1976

Firm to End Production Of Insulating Fluid PCB

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Monsanto Industrial Chemicals Co., the only U.S. manufacturer of the controversial PCB insulating fluids, has announced that it will stop producing the fluids by late next year.

Earle H. Harbison Jr., general manager of Monsanto's specialty chemicals division, said Monday the firm will complete distribution of all inventories and withdraw completely from the market no later than Oct. 31, 1977.

The target date would be even sooner, Harbison said, but electrical transformer and capacitor manufacturers have said they would be unable to convert to other materials any earlier. PCB has been blamed as a major source of pollution in New York's Hudson River.

The Cincinnati Post
CINCINNATI, OHIO
D. 210,770

OCT 6 1976

Monsanto to cease production of PCBs

WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Environmental Protection Agency says it welcomes the decision by Monsanto Chemical Co. to cease production of PCBs, the industrial chemical which EPA has branded a "significant hazard to human health and the environment."

The St. Louis-based company said it would stop production of PCBs at the end of October, 1977, and allow existing inventories to be sold. The company has been a principal supplier the chemical which is used in transformers, capacitors, paints, inks, paper, plastics, adhesives, sealants and hydraulic fluids.

Last December Train said EPA was starting a campaign to "reduce as rapidly and effectively as we can, the serious threat" of PCBs. He cited their widespread presence in the environment and noted "they have been found in laboratory tests to cause reproductive failures, gastaric disorders, skin lesions, and tumors in mammals."

WILLINGBORO, N. J.
BURLINGTON COUNTY
TIMES
D. 32,000

OCT 6 1976

Monsanto will halt PCB fluids

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Monsanto Industrial Chemicals Co. will halt production of PCB insulating fluids next year because of the public's fear of adverse effects from the chemical.

Monsanto will withdraw completely from the market no later than Oct. 31, 1977, said Earle H. Harbison Jr., general manager of the firm's specialty chemicals division.

Harbison said Tuesday the target date would have been sooner, but electrical transformer and capacitor manufacturers have said they would be unable to convert to other materials any earlier.

Monsanto is the only manufacturer of PCB (polychlorinated biphenyl), a stable, fire-resistant chemical.

The Environmental Protection Agency has found that PCBs build up in the environment and are thought to cause reproductive failures, gastric disorders and skin lesions in mammals.

About 300 million pounds of the virtually indestructible chemical have been dumped into landfills, leaked into water supplies and allowed to sift into production sites, the EPA contends.