bcc C. Paton
D. Wood
R. H. Munch - T1B

June 11, 1974

Mr. E. H. Reynolds
General Manager
BICC Central Research
and Engineering Division
38 Wood Lane
London W12, England

Dear Josh:

Unfortunately I cannot give a clear response to your inquiries of January 16, 1974 and June 3, 1974 about hydrocarbon fluids of possible interest for cables. Please bear with me through the following exhibits:

A - This indicates the interest in Sao Paulo. We did not get the order for DDB. Mr. Lechner is no longer with us. We have not been able to obtain recent information about what happened and the present status.

B - This lists our DDB and related fluids. All show good dielectric properties, especially after earth refinement. However, benzene is very short and now high priced. I find our people have little to no enthusiasm for the specialized work that would be required to pursue these things for cables. Certainly supervision by a specialist would be required. (They tell me to do it when I retire next September.)

C - My note to Dr. Munch relates information given me by Mobil people.

D - This is a sequence of things relative to Con Ed from June 24, 1973 to Sept. 13, 1973. The Borne Chem. people know August Hempel at Monsanto. By the time the Con Ed request got to us the deadline for bidding had expired. We did not have

DSW 201674

STLCOPCB4059741

Tridecylbenzene called for and would have had difficulty trying to furnish DDB because it is short. Also we are not set up to deliver by truck at a given street corner and specific time, and degass the fluid as required at the point of use.

E - This gives the data from Doble Engineering on our alkylate MCS 1112 which is a blend of Poroc-el-treated Alkylate H230(L) and Alkylate H230 (H). See exhibit B for our specifications. This material is not our DDB alkyl benzene as described under Alkylate 225 and Alkylate 215 in exhibit B.

With reference to the June 23, 1971 comments to Dr. W. R. Richard by Dr. Munch, how do you feel about the acidity and power factor increase during the oxidation test? In my report of our meeting with Doble I pointed out scarcity of data about this for cable oils and that the requirements may be less stringent for cables than for transformers.

I have done my best to give you insight into our materials background and what we have done to explore the subject of cable oils. While it appears that Monsanto is a potential source of alkylates as well as biphenyl type materials it is not clear that we can pursue effective marketing.

While I greatly appreciate your invitation to the next CIGRE meeting it is not likely that I will be able to attend. Accordingly, we would be grateful if you would please give us a list of your thoughts on this revealing exhibition and presentation of our fractured and questionable position in cable fluids -- which are so vital to your welfare.

In any event this writing gives me opportunity to ask you to please be absolutely sure to give my very best regards to Mrs. Reynolds and to Colin.

Sincerely,

P. G. Benignus
Market Manager
Dielectric Fluids

cs

STLCOPCB4059742