MONSANTO

FROM (NAME & LOCATION): M. A. Pierle - ElSF General Offices

DATE: July 15, 1976

SUBJECT: PCB

REFERENCE:

TO: FILE

cc: J. Mieure
R. S. Nelson
P. S. Park
R. A. Pohl
J. C. Weber
D. Wood

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On July 13, Monsanto and Westinghouse personnel met to discuss environmental matters of mutual concern related to PCB and anticipated regulatory controls. Attached is a list of the attendees and the meeting agenda.

The significant remarks tabled by Westinghouse were:

1. Westinghouse, through EIA, intends to legally oppose adoption of the 307(a) regulation to be proposed by EPA. Their major concern is the downstream impact that adoption of an uncontested 1 ppb limitation would have on subsequent negotiations with Federal and State agencies with respect to pretreatment standards and residual runoff discharges requiring NPDES permits. In addition, this opposition will consume 4-6 months, thus extending any compliance an equal time. The implication was that they could also achieve compliance at affected facilities by discontinuing operations by early 1978.

2. NEMA also intends to oppose the regulations.

3. They do not intend to install carbon treatment at any facilities due to economic impact. Their treatment data on carbon systems is essentially the same as Monsanto's. This is an area in which EPA is not excessively vulnerable.

4. They have recently received notice of legal action against their Bloomington, Indiana facility (Monsanto is also a defendant). The action alleges non-compliance with general water and solid waste laws. Waters below their discharge (part of municipal discharge) have been "posted" - "Do not eat fish". Dairy cows have contaminated milk from feeding on land where the municipal sewage plant sludge had been applied.

   This facility is in EPA Region V as is the W.G.K. plant.

IN 12 REV 1 72

5. They intend to reduce discharges from various facilities by eliminating the contact of PCB with water. They predict 50 ppb levels after these improvements.

6. They are receiving pressure at other facilities where permits have not been issued or are due for renewal.

7. They requested the following:

   a) Monsanto indicate the availability and cost of internal expert witnesses by July 20 for use in Indiana action and EPA hearings on 307(a). Emphasis on Monsanto studies on mammalian toxicity and biodegradation testing - Cole Weber to respond.

   b) Copies or references of biodegradation studies - J. Mieure to send.

   c) Copy of Monsanto comments on 307(a) standard when proposed - C. Weber to send.

CONCLUSIONS

1. EIA and NEMA legal opposition will delay adoption of PCB standard 4-6 months and, thereby, strengthen Monsanto's with EPA Region V on Sauget Village NPDES permit.

2. The conclusions from their technical data on PCB removal by carbon, the adverse economic impact associated with carbon installation, and position not to install carbon systems, parallels Monsanto's position.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. J. Mieure to evaluate library capabilities to screen all PCB references EPA is introducing into the hearing record, pull those whose conclusions seem inconsistent with past information and forward abstracts or copies to appropriate Monsanto personnel to review and comment on if inaccuracies are found.

M. A. Pierle

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Enc.