Monsanto

Monsanto Company
800 N. Lindbergh Boulevard
St. Louis, Missouri 63166
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June 25, 1971

Dr. Mitchell R. Zavon
Kettering Laboratory
University of Cincinnati
College of Medicine
Cincinnati, Ohio 45219

Dear Mitch:

I understand that Mr. Jacob Hess of Canton, Ohio has been in touch with you concerning the suit against Monsanto brought by a dairy man whose milk was taken off the market because of PCB contamination.

As I am sure you know, Dr. Calandra and his associates of Bio-Test have been involved in a whole series of toxicology studies for over two years. You may have heard Kep's short paper at the SOT meeting in March where he summarized the status of the projects at that time. I have enclosed a copy of the draft of his presentation. This does not represent his complete remarks since as you know, a 15 minute presentation at an SOT meeting is based not infrequently on good prepared notes rather than a prepared script. This is particularly true when one has to condense a report on so many pieces of data as in Kep's case.

As to the current status of the studies at Bio-Test, the two-year feeding study in rats and dogs ended late in May. Half of the surviving animals were sacrificed and the other half will be followed from 30 to 60 days to get some idea of tissue depletion rates on a diet free of the PCB's. In the meantime, the final reports are in preparation and histopathology are underway on the tissue of the animals sacrificed at the end of the 24 months.

The three generation rat production studies have been completed and the final report is in preparation.

The study with the white leghorns has been completed and

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reports are in hand.

I have sent, under separate cover, about two pounds of reports which represent the total data on which the March, 1971 presentation was based. I hope after looking at these you will feel free to call Kep to pose any direct questions that you may have rather than going through us here as intermediaries.

If there are any other questions you have about the whole situation, please call me collect.

Best personal regards,

Sincerely,

Elmer P. Wheeler,
Mgr., Environmental Healthl

EPW/bks

cc: Dr. M. L. Keplinger,
Industrial Bio-Test Laboratories, Inc.

DSW 325764