MITSUBISHI MONSANTO CHEMICAL COMPANY

FROM LOCATION : Tokyo

DATE : December 22, 1972

SUBJECT : PCB POLLUTION - JAPAN

REFERENCE :

CC: Messrs.
* W. B. Papageorge
* S. Fujii

JF
xerox cc's
1-2-72
for
1) W Covey Be
2) J Stapleton
3) T Gossage/C Paton.
4) Dr Wm Richard/R. Munch
5) J Savage

TO : Mr. H. S. Bergen *
St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Howard:

You will be interested in the attached xerox copy of a series of articles which ran today in the "Japan Times". Some of the articles appeared in other newspapers, but the "Japan Times" had the best reporting.

You will note that a new standard has been set for PCB tolerance in the air at stack discharge from incineration -- now limited to 0.01 ppm of PCB. MMK's unit at Yokkaichi can barely meet this standard, but our engineers and operating personnel think they will be able to satisfy the prefectural authorities.

Kanegafuchi also will be operating an incinerator, but because of their larger stock pile of returned PCB, they will take at least 10 years to incinerate returned-goods now on hand. MMK is committed for 3 years based on existing stock and probably another 200 tons will be returned, which would require a fourth year of operation.

As usual, the analytical figures from various sources are being played up hysterically. Although the analytical results are probably accurate enough, the levels reported are, with few exceptions, below toxic concentrations. However, anything over 3.0 ppm of PCB will be rejected and down to 0.5 ppm of PCB is questionable, although probably tolerated.

The projected directive to eliminate PCB in industrial condensers and heat exchangers by the end of December, 1973 will result in the return of additional material to MMK and to Kanegafuchi. The Government is requiring the original manufacturers to accept the return of such goods and hold them for incineration.

John
J. R. Durland

JRD:fu
Encl.*

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