From: G. F. Barton - BIND

TO: Mr. H. S. Bergen
Mr. W. R. Corey
Mr. T. L. Gossage
Mr. W. B. Papageorge
Dr. C. Paton
Mr. D. Wood
Mr. D. R. Bishop

-- FYI

CHEMICAL MARKETING REPORTER, MONDAY, SEPT. 15, 1975

PCB's Ban Urged By HEW Official; GE Incident Cited

Dr. Theodore Cooper, Assistant Secretary of Department of Health, Education & Welfare, in charge of the health activities of the department, is calling on Environmental Protection Agency to order an immediate halt to the discharge of polychlorinated byphenyls (PCB's) in the waterways.

The request was contained in a letter last month to EPA Administrator Russell Train, and made public last week after General Electric Company was accused by New York's Environmental Conservation Commissioner Ogden Reid, of causing "irreparable damage to the Hudson River" by discharge of PCB's into the river for the past twenty years.

COOPER WANTS ACTION

Dr. Cooper, who is the government's top health authority, informed Mr. Train that "while the current state of our knowledge as to the biological activity of these substances is not complete, we feel that available evidence indicates that immediate action should be taken to terminate the discharge of polychlorinated byphenyls.

"Such action would be in the best interests of protection of the public health and safety by eventually terminating PCB entry into the food chain and subsequent exposure to the American people."

In a speech recently before the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, EPA's Director of Toxic Substances, Glenn E. Schweitzer, reported that the agency was giving close attention to potential haz-

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Lancaster Chemical Buys A Newark Site for a Plant

Lancaster Chemical Division of AZS Corporation, Carlstadt, N.J., has bought a 5.2-acre plant site at 660 Felinghuysen Avenue, Newark, N.J. The tract includes 50,000 square feet of manufacturing and warehousing facilities.

The company makes paper mill defoamers, alkanolamide liquid detergent additives and wetting agents and emulsifiers for the asphalt paving industry.

Lancaster will move its Carstadt manufacturing to the Newark plant, and plans are underway to expand the division's ability to make a more complete line of organic surfactants. The Newark plant is expected to be in operation by January, 1976, says a spokesman.

PCB's Ban Urged

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ards to health involved in the spreading contamination from PCB's and has requested the National Academy of Sciences to determine if there is a need for a standard for PCB's in the nation's drinking water supply. Dow Chemical Company, chief producer of the chemicals, also has been asked for test data on chemical properties and the potential bioactivity of PCB substitutes.

The effectof PCB's on humans is still being studied, but laboratory tests have shown the chemical to be fatal to fish eggs and possibly the cause of liver cancer in rats, and weight and hair loss in monkeys. Dr. Cooper described the chemicals to Mr. Train as "suspected cancer-causing chemicals."

New York Conservation Commissioner Reid has warned against eating fish taken from the Hudson, although the waters were declared fit for drinking by the State Health Department after testing the waters from the Hudson and Mohawk Rivers at eleven points.

Commissioner Reid filed a formal complaint against discharging the chemical in the Hudson by General Electric, and a departmental hearing on the complaint has been set for October 6.

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