PCB

April 29, 1970

Mr. E. M. Toby, President
American Mineral Spirits Company
Division of Union Oil of California
1345 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10019

Dear Mr. Toby:

You are already well aware of the publicity surrounding the allegations that certain Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCB) are environmental contaminants. It has been suggested that one possible source of contamination is the use of these materials in pesticide formulations.

Even though the recommendations for the use of PCB in insecticide formulations originally came from the U.S.D.A., Monsanto has written to Dr. Hayes, Director, Pesticide Regulations Division of U.S.D.A. recommending that his department give critical attention to the registration of PCBs as an ingredient of pesticide formulations. We attach a copy of our letter to Dr. Hayes.

Furthermore, it has been decided that effective immediately, Monsanto will discontinue the sale of PCBs to any customer using or intending to use PCB as an insecticide/pesticide carrier. By PCB we mean the members of the Aroclor® 1200 series, namely, 1221, 1232, 1242, 1248, 1254, 1260, 1262, 1268, and toluol/xylol solutions of 1254, 1260 and 1262, plus Aroclor 4465. As our distributor for these products, we wish to ask for your co-operation in making certain that sales for these applications are discontinued immediately. Our records show only one customer buying Aroclor 1254/1260 for this application, namely John Rooney, supplied by your location in Miami. There could be others, of course, of which we have no record. Please inform us if you intend to comply with this request and also when the necessary action has been taken.

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This ban does not extend to chlorinated terphenyls, namely Aroclor 5060, 5442 and 5460. Nevertheless, we feel that their usage should not be recommended or encouraged further.

What suggestions might we suggest? We suggest formulators may wish to look at:

Santolite® MHP
Santolite MS-80%
Santicizer® 261
Santicizer B-16
Santicizer 8

We wish to point out that we do not recommend a switch to any other product without checking by the customer to obtain U.S.D.A. clearance. This is outside Monsanto's jurisdiction.

We apologize for the trouble and inconvenience this request may cause you but, unfortunately, present circumstances dictate this course. Should any of your location managers and representatives have any questions concerning this matter, the appropriate Monsanto regional manager for the Plasticizer Business Group will be willing to render all possible assistance.

Very truly yours,

W. E. Schalk
Director of Sales
Plasticizers

/dbw

cc: A. S. Hoyer
L. W. Norkus
P. E. Schmeal
J. W. Schrage
D. Stewart

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