Monsanto

FROM (NAME LOCATION PHONE) D.L. Coleman Dept. of Medicine & Environmental Health G2WF-8805

DATE October 14, 1981 CC W. Gaffey

SUBJECT: PCB Meeting With Koppers

REFERENCE:

TO George Roush

The undersigned and Bill Gaffey met with representatives from the Koppers Company and John Craddock on October 13. The subject was a leaching of PCB from tanks coated with a material using PCB as a plasticizer. The Koppers Company has coated many tanks used in smaller town water supplies over the years with this material. The Arkansas Department of Public Health has measured PCB's in the water supply at the low parts per trillion level. This measurement showed that the PCB's were not present in the well water, but did exist after the water was in the processing tanks. They have pinpointed the source to leaching out of the plasticizer from the coating in the processing tanks. This has not come to public attention, however, Koppers is very worried about persuading the Health Department and not having this come to public attention. They also feel that they will eventually have to sit down with the EPA and discuss this. They were given Bill Gaffey's presentation on the epidemiology of PCB's. John Craddock discussed the background from Monsanto as far as manufacturing dates, and passed out copies of Monsanto's position papers, PR response to the media data, and some other data and I discussed known human health effects from the literature. There were many questions directed towards J. Ortiz and Dan Bishop concerning legal positions.

They have several difficulties from the legal sense in times of notification and stopping of use of the material. I do not feel that the levels that they are discussing pose a human health hazard. The plant levels in the capacitor workers studies and the study in the locomotive servicemen reported at the AOMA meeting were much higher and did not reveal any chronic disease.

If this becomes a publicity matter, they are faced with severe financial liability and, in fact, the entire worth of the company could not finance a complete relining of all of the tanks that they have sold. Another complication is the fact that the relining material contains phthalate esters and the plasticizers which also can be shown to leach out into the drinking water and may present another whole set of problems with the EPA.

In summary, the Koppers Company has a severe potential financial liability and public relations problem and a potential problem with the EPA; however, I do not feel that the exposure calculated is likely to result in any real health problem versus the imagined health problem that public outcry could bring.

Donald L. Coleman, M.D.

/ab

0615375
EX P-3321
Page 1 of 1

IN-10M (REV. 2/78)

PCB-ARCH0755116