H. S. BERGEN - ST. LOUIS

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EUROPEAN VIEWPOINT
PCB PROBLEM

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Norbert Dahlstrom phoned me this morning to give me a brief rundown on his visit to Prodelac and Bayer and their feelings regarding the PCB pollution problem. Comments were as follows:

Bayer:

Senior Management totally unaware of problem and lower level Management, while knowledgeable, did not put the importance on it that we did. Became more concerned after Monsanto's visit and agreed to discuss further at a technical meeting to be set up February 9 and 10 in Frankfort devoted entirely to discussing the PCB problem and what mutual effort could be forthcoming. Prodelac and Caffaro will also be invited.

Bayer took the strong position that until it is definitely proven, they would make no attempt to limit production of their equivalent to Aroclor-1254 or 1260. They would also like proof that the biodegraded products of Aroclor-1221 and 1242 are less toxic than the Aroclor 1254 and 1260 residue or per se compounds. Bayer does not intend to be stampeeded into action and feels evidence so far is inconclusive. They will continue to offer to all markets.

Prodelac:

Prodelac was even less concerned than Bayer, but agreed to collaborate at the technical meeting.

Prodelac is reclaiming and has a bulletin on reclamation which Norbert will send to us.

I acquainted Norbert with our GE meeting and the position that GE took. I also told him of our letter that was going out by February 1 and copies of this are being sent to him.

DSW 201558

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