Monsanto

MAY 23 1980

FROM (NAME—LOCATION—PHONE): Susan H. Fenske - Regulatory Affairs - Washington, D.C. (1920)

DATE: May 21, 1980

cc

File PCB
Good list of witnesses on Aquatic toxicity

SUBJECT: House Merchant Marine Subcommittee Hearings on Ocean Dredge Spoil Disposal

REFERENCE:

TO: C. F. Callis - B2SA

Congressman John M. Murphy, Chairman of the House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee, convened a second day of hearings on PCB issues today, on the problem of ocean dredge spoil disposal. Testimony and discussion focused specifically on the New York/New Jersey area--the New York Bight, and the problem of PCB contamination of dredge materials disposal and its environmental/biological impact on the area.

The witnesses were organized into issue area panels. (See witness list attached for specifics.) The morning session met with the first two panels. Discussion focused on the technical aspects of testing, and assessing the risks involved in ocean dumping of dredge spoils. Of particular concern were contaminants and hazards to the marine food chain. Alternatives and options with regard to New York Bight and the PCB problem were only briefly mentioned.

The issue of limits, containment, and disposal of PCB's was brought up. Congressman Evans of Delaware commented that PCB manufacture and usage was being stopped. He cited the fact that Monsanto stopped producing PCB's in 1977. However, Evans added that there is still plenty around, and it is still available despite current regulations.

(See attached copys of testimony for further detail.)

Susan H. Fenske

Susan H. Fenske

MONS 002721

IN - 10 (REV 8/77)