Monsanto

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FROM (NAME & LOCATION) Dept. of Medicine & Environmental Health - P.E. Berteau, A2SC

DATE: July 31, 1978

cc: R.A. Stohr, B2SC

SUBJECT: PCB studies in cattle

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REFERENCE:

TO J.C. Weber, B2SK

PCB feeding studies

Recently I talked with Dr. Robinson and Dr. Everson at Purdue University, School of Veterinary Medicine, concerning the studies they have conducted on PCB's (Aroclor 1254) fed to cattle. The maximum level fed was 200 mg/day in silage apparently for 10 months to 20 steers and heifers. The animals remained clinically healthy during the feeding. No abnormalities were noted in the calves and there was no effect on reproductive performance. Gross pathology at autopsy revealed no gross liver changes.

Since the weight of the animals ranged from 300-400 pounds at weaning to 1100 pounds at slaughter and the amount of PCB's fed was not increased as the body weight increased, the dose level ranged from about 260 µg/kg to 82.6 µg/kg, i.e. initially the levels were about 2.6 times the upper dose fed to monkeys at Litton; finally it comprised about 82% of that dose.

A final report will be sent to Monsanto in a few months. Until this is received, I do not think that we should draw any conclusion as to whether the monkey is more sensitive to PCB's than cattle.

Peter E. Berteau

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