Monsanto INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS CO.

FROM (NAME & LOCATION): J. P. Mieure - T2F

DATE: July 14, 1975

SUBJECT: ASTM D-19 MEETING

REFERENCE:

cc: R. E. Keller - T1B
W. B. Papageorge - B2SK
W. R. Richard - T3A
~~D. Wood - B2SC~~

TO: P. B. Benignus
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file ASTM. New chip D-19.

This memo report summarizes points developed at the July 7-9 meeting of ASTM D-19 (Water), which I attended, with reference to the PCB method under jurisdiction of Subcommittee D-19.06. Discussion of the PCB method was limited to the last five minutes of the pesticides session and consisted of the following items.

1. At our prompting, subcommittee chairman Dr. James J. Lichtenberg (EPA-Cincinnati) announced the prior existence of another ASTM PCB method, D-3304, from your Committee D-27. He expressed his belief that ASTM should support two methods, one for PCB's only (D-3304) and one for PCB's and organochlorine pesticides, currently nearing balloting in D-19. A copy of the current draft of the latter method is appended. It is essentially the same as the EPA method we reviewed earlier.

2. Dr. Lichtenberg solicited Monsanto's comments, and I expressed our basic agreement with the two-method approach. I corrected his observation that D-3304 was useful only for high level of PCB's in water, explaining that another round-robin testing was planned to validate the method down to 1 ppb. Seven laboratories volunteered to participate in this test, including four from EPA, two from the U.S. Geological Survey and one group at the National Bureau of Standards.

Further discussion was tabled due to lack of time. As mentioned above, the D-19 method is scheduled for a mail ballot of the subcommittee members within the next few months.

Only two of the improvements we recommended earlier for the EPA method have been incorporated into the proposed ASTM method by Lichtenberg. Dr. Lichtenberg has turned this method over to the subcommittee vice-chairman, Robert E. White, Denver Wildlife Research Center, who will have responsibility for the final procedure. White has not seen our recommendations. I will update him by separate memo in the near future.

The round-robin testing for ASTM D-3304 should be initiated in about two months. We will target this study for twelve participants, including the seven government laboratories listed above; Monsanto; General Electric; Westinghouse; and one or two consulting laboratories, such as WARF and Woodson-Tenant.

We intend to continue our participation in ASTM D-19 (Water) because of the reliance of government agencies on ASTM consensus for key methodology. Our participation will assure Monsanto input into the development and certification of regulatory procedures for determining impurities in water. This is especially important because these impurities include many of our products and the waters encompass industrial effluents and natural waters.

J. P. Mieure

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Attachment