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Illinois Scene

PCBs Feared In Tank Liquid

Belleville, (AP)

A temporary restraining order has been issued against a Missouri oil salvage firm to prevent the moving of any liquid from storage tanks in Sauget.

The liquid might contain polychlorinated biphenyls, which are highly toxic chemicals kown as PCBs, officials said.

The restraining order was issued Thursday in Circuit Court upon request of the Illinois attorney general's office and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency.

Bliss Oil Salvage Co., of Belleville, Mo., has four large waste-oil storage tanks west of Illinois 3 across from the Monsanto Co. plant in Sauget.

Russell Bliss, owner of the firm, said the tanks in Sauget might contain the same chemicals which recently were dumped in Jefferson County, Mo.

The waste oil contained PCBs, which are used in lubricants and waterproofing chemicals. PCBs are known to cause skin and liver ailments.

U.S. Atty. Samuel Skinner said theit he charges arose from an investigation of corruption in the suburbs of Chicago, including the case in which former County Board member Floyd T. Fulle was sentenced to five years in prison after he was convicted of extortion, perjury and tax evasion.