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Officials to discuss PCBs

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Representatives from the city utilities department, Westinghouse and Mayor Frank McCloskey's office will discuss the local use and discharge of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) at tonight's meeting of the Environmental Quality and Conservation Commission (EQCC).

The discussion is the result of the recent revelation in the *Daily Herald-Telephone* that the local Westinghouse plant was using PCBs in the manufacture of capacitors.

While the Indiana Stream Pollution Control Board has been aware of the PCB use in Bloomington since 1969, the utilities department only learned of the compound's use this past fall.

A team of field researchers from the stream board's industrial waste disposal section and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are scheduled to sample Westinghouse discharge of PCBs this week.

According to Westinghouse division manager Don Sauter, the discharge of PCBs at the local plant into the city's sewer system is "way below" any discharge standard proposed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

In Chicago during a conference on PCBs last month, Nathaniel P. Reed, Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, revealed that EPA is considering limits of one part per trillion.

PCBs have been blamed for contaminating fish in New York's Hudson River and the Great Lakes. Their effects on humans in Japan have included reproduction disfunctions and skin discoloration. PCBs have

The EQCC meets in the council chambers of city hall, 220 E. Third St., beginning at 7:30 p.m.

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