Monsanto

FROM: W. B. Papageorge - B3NB

DATE: December 17, 1975

cc K. W. Easley - 1920

SUBJECT: PCB's-EPA Press Conference

REFERENCE:

TO:
D. R. Bishop - B1ND
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Warren Easley telephoned the following preliminary information regarding EPA Administrator Mr. Russell Train's scheduled press conference on Monday, December 22.

Mr. Train is expected to state that PCB's are a real problem and must be phased out. The phase out must, however, be done responsibly and it will not be easy to do. EPA will not use Section 504 (imminent hazard) of the Water Pollution Control Act on the use of PCB's in capacitors. Warren's source did not mention transformers. We, therefore, do not know if transformers are deliberately eliminated or if the use of the word "capacitor" is intended to apply to both dielectric applications.

In early 1976, EPA will invite the manufacturer of PCB's and the capacitor manufacturers to a meeting to discuss the phase out program. Later the same invitation will be extended to utility companies and users of capacitors to discuss the same subject.

A task force composed of representatives from government and industry is expected to be formed to also consider PCB phase out.

EPA will issue effluent standards for PCB's and other chemicals in early 1976. It is anticipated that these regulations will represent a severe restriction on the amount of PCB's permitted in plant effluent discharges.

Mr. Train is also expected to make some remarks regarding the matter of proper disposal practices and will probably refer to the return of PCB materials to the manufacturers.

Warren hopes to get a draft of Mr. Train's statement on Thursday, December 18.

W. B. Papageorge

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