Monsanto

G.H. - Dept 3 Transport

FROM (NAME & LOCATION) P. L. Slayton - N. Y. O.

DATE April 2, 1974

SUBJECT TRANSPORTATION AGENCY PCB MEETING

REFERENCE

P.G. Benignus - St. Louis - B2SC
J.G. Bryant - Wilmington
T.L. Gossage - St. Louis - B2SL
W.B. Papageorge - St. Louis - B1ND

TO : C. Paton
St. Louis
B2SC

Cumming,

Jim Bryant and I attended a "PCB" meeting in the Penn Central Board Room--Penn Center, Philly--3/19/74.

Present were 33 guests representing:

M.C. Garrett and Paul Spencer	- U.S.D.O.T.
R.J. Phillips	- Conn. D.O.T.
E.L. Tennyson	- Penna. D.O.T.
H.T. Hermann	- N.J. D.O.T.
Jack H. Russell	- F.R.P. D.O.T.
L.F. Walter and Robert F. Breese	- AmTrak
A.G. Lyons and E.R. Stickel	- S.E.P.T.A.
R.E. Wells, W.W. Smith, Jr.,	- Westinghouse
C.L. Moore, T.B. Trumbo	- "
F.A. Aptacy-Phila., E.Lustenader-	- G.E.
Erie, R.N. Dobbins-Erie, A. Ter-	- "
zano-Pittsfield, L.L. MacMonagh-	- "
Erie	- "
Bryant and Slayton	- Monsanto
W.A. Mullin, P.L. Manganaro,	- Penn Central
M.J. Chandler, T.N. Butler, +1	- " "
E.T. Harley, W.E. Kelley,	- P.C. Transportation Co.
O.R. Pendy	- "
R.B. Watson, T.C. Kurchn	- L.T.K. & A.
Leon Klopt	- M.T.A.

Meeting called to order by Mullins a P.C. V.P., who stated that the purpose was to advise everyone that Askarel in transformers was about to be practically banned by the E.P.A. proposals and what were they, the R.R. and transportation agencies, going to substitute?

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Cliff Garrett quickly took over and recited some background--passed out Federal Register reprints pertaining to PCB's, described the D.O.T. interest--expressed concern that not enough people "users" were aware of proposed legislation. He stated that his talks with Hugh Thompson revealed some reluctance on Thompson's part to go "on line" for "Askarel over mineral oil".

He added that Thompson was now requesting details of use, spillage, loss, problems, etc., at R.R. shop facilities; the idea to set some standards for "users" by this summer --obviously separate and different rules from those proposed in 129.09.

Garrett proposed an agenda with all participants speaking on the subject. It was obvious that some of the people were hearing about the PCB problems for first time, but all were familiar with Askarel by one name or another.

Monsanto was first "in the barrel" and we held the assembled transportation moguls spellbound, giving, in the best Papageorge fashion, the history, facts and our objections to 129.09. I stated we intend to stay a producer; to contest the proposal and explained why.

I offered several copies of Monsanto's 3/14/74 sworn testimony to the E.P.A., plus other "fact" sheets we have sent customers--which were accepted.

Westinghouse and G.E. delegations made similar statements concerning "need" for fire resistance. More specifically Westinghouse wanted to distinguish between lower chlorinated--more degradable PCB's as opposed to 1242 and 1254.

G.E. quoted their E.P.A. testimony and suggested there be an interim standard set based on present level of PCB in effluent until proof of need and control standards available for more stringent levels. G.E. said they <u>could not</u> comply with proposed E.P.A. at most of their plants.

Some discussion on use of silicone oil by Japanese to replace PCB's. These are <u>not</u> really fire resistant and not suitable replacements according to three sources at meeting.

Each man or agency spoke for the record and I have notes on comments. Typical were the Conn D.O.T. man saying "One bad fire on a Penn Central commuter train caused by flammable transformer fluid and good-bye, P.C."

Harley (P.C.T.C.) suggested E.P.A. regulations might or could be in conflict with state and municipal fire regulations.

The net result was that by a general consensus of @30 to 3 it was agreed that:

(1) Safety was the #1 priority, not the environment-- a fire resistant fluid was much more important than a degradable one.

(2) Each agency would write individually to Thompson or others in the E.P.A. prior to 3/27 registering their objections to proposal based on concern for safety, peoples' lives threatened, etc.

Of the two or three negative people--Butler of P.C. mentioned that European railroads used mostly mineral oil in transformers with no known major disasters. *We said, "No, no just unfounded rumors." He also wanted to know what were or would be the E.P.A. regulations regarding PCB's in or on land? It was explained we were now in Phase I which applied only to water resources and control.

MacMonagh of W. did point out that no evidence is really available to prove that mineral oil is any better than Askarels when all types of hazards are considered.

Generally, it seemed to be a positive and productive

Insert -*Also asked about phosgene evolving from PCB's.

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meeting and if all who said they would write, do so, it will be helpful.

P. L. Slayton

PLS:gtb

P.S. Tony Terzano of G.E., Pittsfield, advised us after the meeting that someone in G.E. had made an "unfortunate decision" in sending out notification that they were withdrawing from all bids on Askarel transformers. He said this decision and notice has now been rescinded. It is my understanding that Terzano is a sales manager in the Power Transformer Department

PLS

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