

GENERAL ELECTRIC

FAIRFIELD, CONNECTICUT 06431



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SUBJECT

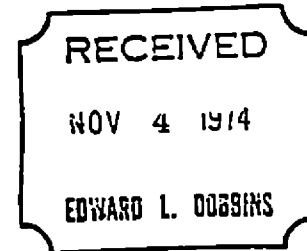
NEW SCHEDULE FOR
PCB REGULATIONS

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November 1, 1974

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Gentlemen:

Dr. Kenneth Mackenthun, a limnologist of national reputation, has been named Acting Director, Technical Studies Division, EPA. He is now responsible for the program to implement Section 307 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act. At a meeting in Washington yesterday of the Effluent Standards and Water Quality Information Advisory Committee, he announced the following plan for development and promulgation of Toxic Pollutant Effluent Standards for nine materials, including PCBs:

Mid-December 1974: Advance Notice of Proposed Rule Making to be published in the Federal Register. (This will be a complete set of proposed regulations, and will allow public participation to begin without starting the 180-day clock running toward the deadline for promulgation.)

February and March 1975: Symposia on the advance notice to be conducted in about half of the ten regional EPA offices.

May 15, 1975: (Approx.) Publication in the Federal Register of the Proposed Rule Making.

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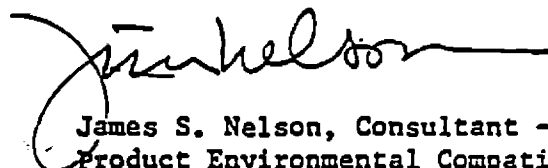
November 1, 1974

June 15, 1975: Start of formal public hearing (similar to that conducted in April and May of 1974.)

Late October 1975: Promulgation of Final Rules

Present law states that the rules shall go into effect upon the date specified in the promulgation order, but not later than one year from the date of promulgation. Under present law, we would anticipate that, if the above schedule is followed, standards for PCBs would become effective in October of 1976. If the EPA gets the amendment to the Act it has requested, this date could be as late as October of 1978.

EPA failed to impose the standards it proposed the first time around. However, its decision to re-propose should not be interpreted as evidence that the staff now subscribes to the arguments contained in industry testimony, or that the proposal to be disclosed in December will be capable of attainment.



James S. Nelson, Consultant -
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