April 19, 1972

Mr. Dale Thurston
Westinghouse Electric Corporation
P. O. Box 28188
Columbus, Ohio 43228

Dear Mr. Thurston:

As discussed with you by telephone, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB) are still being used in the manufacture of capacitors and transformers.

Because of their nonflammability transformers filled with PCB-containing fluids do not present the fire and explosion hazards found in mineral oil units and may be used in locations when failures of oil-insulated transformers would present a potential danger to life and property. In addition to improving the safety aspects of capacitors the use of PCB also gives them the advantages of reliability, long life and small size. Since no alternative fire resistant fluid is now available and because these fluids are hermatically sealed in metal containers providing good control of escape to the environment, the use of PCB in this service is justified.

Recent studies have indicated that the PCB containing more chlorine were the most persistent in the environment. To reduce persistence we have removed the higher chlorinated PCB from the former capacitor fluid sold as Aroclor 1242. The new fluid, designated as Aroclor 1016, has been used exclusively in capacitors manufactured in the U.S. since September, 1971.

Although less persistent, we do not advocate the free disposal of the new fluid into plant sewers. We believe that it represents a step in the right direction in reducing any threat to the environment if it should eventually be released.

MONS 091616

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I hope this information is useful. If I can be of further service please let me know.

Sincerely,

W. B. Papageorge
Manager
Environmental Protection

WBP/ar