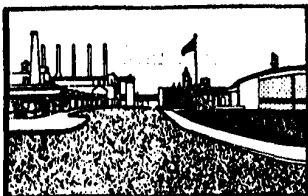


PCB file



wgk
today
Monsanto Company

FRIDAY,
SEPTEMBER 19, 1980

DIAL STA. 2022

COMMENT

I WORKED IN THE AROCLORS DEPARTMENT AT KRUMMRICH FOR ALMOST TEN YEARS. I AM CONCERNED ABOUT MY HEALTH, BECAUSE THE NEWSPAPERS DESCRIBE PCB'S AS HUMAN CANCER-CAUSING AGENTS AND DEADLY TOXINS.

I FEEL THAT THE ANSWER TO THIS COMMENT WOULD BE OF INTEREST TO A LOT OF PEOPLE AT THIS PLANT AND THINK IT SHOULD BE PUBLISHED IN THE PLANT PAPER.

ANSWER

HERE ARE THE FACTS:

--IN 1975, DR. RENATE KIMBROUGH, OF THE CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL, PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE, ATLANTA, GA., REPORTED THAT PCB'S CAUSED LIVER CANCER IN FEMALE RATS FED FOR TWO YEARS.

THIS SINGLE STUDY FORMED THE BASIS FOR THE "CANCER-CAUSING LABEL" THAT HAS BEEN PUT ON PCB'S BY FEDERAL AND STATE OFFICIALS AND A BROAD SECTION OF THE NEWS MEDIA EVER SINCE.

DR. KIMBROUGH'S 1975 PCB STUDY WAS SUBJECTED TO EXTENSIVE INDEPENDENT REVIEW BY THE EPPLEY INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH IN CANCER. THIS REVIEW DID NOT CONCUR WITH HER DIAGNOSIS, I.E., HER FINDINGS WERE NOT CONFIRMED.

--IN APRIL OF 1978, THE NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE PUBLISHED A REPORT ON AN ANIMAL FEEDING STUDY IN WHICH LABORATORY RATS WERE FED PCB'S FOR 105 WEEKS. NCI CONCLUDED THAT PCB'S WERE NOT CANCER-CAUSING COMPOUNDS AS A RESULT OF THIS STUDY.

--MONSANTO IS AWARE OF SEVEN EPIDEMIOLOGICAL STUDIES DONE IN THE U.S. OF GROUPS OF PEOPLE EXPOSED TO PCB'S. NONE OF THESE STUDIES FOUND PCB'S TO CAUSE CANCER IN HUMANS.

WE IN NO WAY WISH TO MINIMIZE THE VERY REAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS ASSOCIATED WITH IRRESPONSIBLE DISPOSAL OF WASTES CONTAINING PCB'S.

(CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE)

(CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE)

THE PROBLEMS WITH PCB'S CENTER ON THE FACT THAT THEY REMAIN INTACT IN THE ENVIRONMENT FOR MANY YEARS AND, AFTER LONG-TERM EXPOSURE CAN BE HIGHLY TOXIC TO SOME FORMS OF ANIMAL AND AQUATIC LIFE. THEY ARE CONSIDERED ONLY MILDLY TOXIC ON AN ACUTE BASIS WHEN INGESTED BY HUMANS -- ABOUT ON THE SAME ORDER AS COMMON TABLE SALT.

PCB'S ARE NOT "HUMAN CANCER-CAUSING AGENTS AND THEY ARE NOT "DEADLY TOXINS."

COMMENT

WHEN I WENT OUT TO THE PARKING LOT AFTER WORKING THE LATE SHIFT THIS MORNING, I DISCOVERED THAT SOMEONE HAD HIT MY CAR, A BROWN, 1979 CADILLAC, TWO-DOOR, AND HAD BROKEN OUT THE RIGHT TURN LIGHT. MY CAR WAS PARKED NEAR THE FIRST GATE IN THE EAST PARKING LOT.

THIS INCIDENT HAD TO INVOLVE SOMEONE WHO WORKS HERE AT THE PLANT, THEIR INSURANCE WOULD PROBABLY COVER THE DAMAGE; MINE WON'T. I KNOW WE ARE ALL IN A HURRY AS WE LEAVE WORK AND AS WE ARRIVE AT WORK. I HOPE THAT SOMEONE WAS JUST IN A HURRY AND DID NOT KNOW WHO TO CONTACT TO REPORT THE INCIDENT. IF THIS IS THE CASE, I WOULD APPRECIATE (AND UNDERSTAND) IF THEY WOULD CONTACT ME TO DISCUSS THE DAMAGE. THERE WERE A LOT OF PEOPLE IN THE LOT THIS MORNING AND SOMEONE PROBABLY NOTICED THIS INCIDENT WHEN IT OCCURRED; I WOULD APPRECIATE, ALSO, IF ANYONE WHO WITNESSED IT WOULD CONTACT ME...JAMES JOHNSON, DEPT 238, OR (HOME) 271-7008. I KNOW WE HAVE A LOT OF DECENT, HONEST PEOPLE WORKING OUT HERE; I HOPE THE PERSON WHO HIT MY CAR IS ONE OF THEM.

QUESTIONS FROM PPC SEMINAR?

ATTENDANCE AT THE PPC SEMINAR ON STRESS/DEPRESSION, LAST EVENING, WAS VERY GOOD AND INTEREST WAS HIGH. THERE WERE MANY QUESTIONS ASKED AND MANY ANSWERED. THE PPC COUNSELLOR FELT, HOWEVER, THAT TIME DID NOT PERMIT SOME OF THE IN-DEPTH ANSWERS THAT PEOPLE SOUGHT AND WOULD WELCOME TELEPHONE CALLS FROM PEOPLE ATTENDING. THE TOLL-FREE NUMBER TO CALL IS 1-800-325-3982; ASK FOR HARV LEAVITT OR PPC. OR, ANYONE WITH FURTHER QUESTIONS MAY ALSO CONTACT THE PPC LOCATION AT (314) 878-0460.

THE NEXT PPC SEMINAR WILL FOCUS ON "MONEY MANAGEMENT," AND WILL BE HELD ON OCTOBER 23, 7-9 P.M., AT THE HOLIDAY INN, COLLINSVILLE. FURTHER INFORMATION ON THIS TOPIC WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

KNOW THE ANSWERS!

AS THE DAYS BEFORE HOUSEKEEPING INSPECTION BECOME FEWER, WE BEGIN TO FOCUS ON SOME OF THE QUESTIONS WHICH INSPECTION TEAM MEMBERS MIGHT ASK ANY OF US...SOME OF THOSE RELATE TO:

- EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS (FIRE, MEDICAL, FIRE ZONE)
- PLANT EMERGENCY SIGNAL
- PROPER SAFETY EQUIPMENT FOR A PARTICULAR JOB
- USE OF FIRE PERMITS
- USE OF TANK ENTRY PERMITS
- LOCKOUT PROCEDURE

MONS 000717