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Mailing address:
State Office Building
Montgomery, Al. 36130

Telephone 205/277-3630

November 13, 1976

Mr. William DeVries
Route 1, Box 89
Titus, AL 36080

Dear Mr. DeVries:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of November 15, 1976, concerning the possibility of a PCB problem in the Coosa River, particularly on Lake Jordan. I am taking the liberty of forwarding a copy of your letter to Mr. William T. Willis, Director, Environmental Health Administration, who would be the appropriate person in the Alabama Department of Public Health to advise you on the consumption of any fish taken from Lake Jordan.

I would like to point out that data collected in a survey prepared by the Alabama Pesticide Laboratory Division of the Department of Agriculture and Industries during 1971 indicated that fish samples including bass, carp, shad, and catfish were relatively low in PCB concentration; and in fact, only one catfish sample at 6 parts per million exceeded the FDA recommendation of 5 parts per million. There have been no changes in activities of an industrial or other nature of which we are aware in the Lake Jordan area, and we therefore have no reason to believe that any problem with PCB's should exist in that reservoir.

You may also be interested to know that a sample of fish taken in September of this year from Logan Martin Lake, which is the third impoundment above Lake Jordan and the second impoundment below Weiss Reservoir, did not produce any PCB concentrations in excess of 5 parts per million; and in fact with very few exceptions, all these data were below 1 part per million.

You should be hearing from Mr. Willis in the next day or so; and if we can be of any further assistance, please contact us.

Yours very truly,

James W. Warr
Chief Administrative Officer
Water Improvement Commission

JWW/sag
cc: Mr. William T. Willis, w/enclosure

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