GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY

R.W. Lewis
Vice President and Group Executive

July 7, 1970

Mr. A. M. Salazar, Executive Secretary
Power Equipment Division
NEMA
155 East 44th St.
New York, N. Y. 10017

Dear Al:

At the last meeting of the Board of Directors of the Power Equipment Section, I recommended that NEMA take a leadership role in solving the problem of disposition of askarel contaminated materials because it is an industry-wide problem.

The backgrounnd of this recommendation is that Monsanto, the sole manufacturer of askarels (technically known as polychlorinated biphenyls), notified us, and I presume all other purchsers of askarels, that there was a possibility of environmental contamination due to non-biodegradable materials used in their composition. Monsanto has offered a disposal service for handling scrap liquid askarels but the problem of disposing of askarel soaked materials, such as sawdust, rags, and insulations, has not been solved. It is the latter to which I recommended a NEMA Task Force address itself.

I would appreciate it if you would activate the mechanics for getting such a Task Force appointed as promptly as possible. As I indicated, E. L. Raab, Manager-Chemical and Processes section, Materials and Technology Laboratory, Pittsfield, Massachusetts, would likely be our candidate to serve on the Task Force.

Very truly yours,

R. W. Lewis/S

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cc: R. B. Ames
C. J. Meloun

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EXHIBIT "A"

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