Media Statements
October 31, 2008
(In Response to The World According to Monsanto)

PCB's and Anniston

These environmental issues occurred many decades ago before current standards were in place. Monsanto has accepted responsibility for addressing the contamination issues, working with Solutia as well.

Most of the clean-up efforts have been completed.

Monsanto paid a large portion of a $700 million settlement in 2003 that addresses the issues.

Among activities funded by Monsanto, a health clinic of residents of Western Anniston has been set up. Ongoing educational grants for programs, such as HeadStart for children, have been made.

Monsanto has stepped up and committed to addressing the contamination issues and will continue doing so in the years to come.

Agent Orange

The former Monsanto and at least eight other manufacturers made Agent Orange under contract to the U.S. government during the Vietnam War. The material was used by the military to defoliate jungle areas, to eliminate hiding places for enemy soldiers and thus protect American and allied lives.

Very small amounts of dioxin were present in Agent Orange, as a by-product of the manufacturing process. This information was disclosed to the U.S. government.

There are a number of pending lawsuits involving the Agent Orange manufacturers. We believe that any issues arising from the use of Agent Orange need to be addressed by the various governments involved, and we will continue to vigorously defend ourselves in the litigation brought against us and the other manufacturers.