GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY

POWER DISTRIBUTION DIVISION

100 WOODLAWN AVE., PITTSFIELD, MASS. 01201 . . . TEL. AREA CODE 413, 443-3511

MATERIALS AND TECHNOLOGY LABORATORY

Subject: Chlorinated Biphenyls

Pittsfield, Mass.
January 8, 1970

Mr. P. G. Benignus
Monsanto Company
800 North Lindbergh Boulevard
St. Louis, Missouri 63166

Dear Paul:

This will confirm much of our recent conversations concerned with our projected visit to Monsanto. I will be accompanied by Dr. K. R. Murphy (Engineer-Environmental Pollution Control - General Electric) and Dr. H. W. Gerarde (Toxicologist - Fairleigh Dickinson University - retained by General Electric as Consultant). As arranged, we will arrive late in the afternoon or early evening on Tuesday, January 20 and will check in at the Hilton Inn. We will be available for discussions with your company personnel all day Wednesday (January 21) and most of the day on Thursday (January 22).

The purpose of our visit is as a fact finding mission and to acquaint your company personnel with our current thinking.

As discussed with you, we wish to explore in depth the following areas with the appropriate Monsanto personnel:

(1) What is Monsanto's present corporate stance and what managerial and marketing actions can we expect which may affect General Electric's usage of aroclors?

(2) All aspects of the possible ecological problem with aroclors including published data, reliability of analytical data shown and conclusions drawn, Monsanto's in-house studies, the biodegradable and non-biodegradable aspects of the various aroclors, including the question of tri and tetrachlorbenzenes.

(3) The possible effects on costs to General Electric should Monsanto curtail its marketing of aroclors for certain non-electrical applications.

(4) Based upon a typical recent year the volumes, types and dollar amounts of the various aroclors sold to General Electric and its accounts and the locations purchasing. This information will be helpful to us in formulating any required G-E action relative to disposal problems.

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(5) The feasibility of Monsanto extending its buy-back of scrap. This area should include a discussion of such items as contaminated Pyranols, Pyranol soaked fuller's earth, sawdust, etc.

(6) Is there any knowledge of impending restrictive legislation?

(7) The conflict which may ensue between the classic old requirement of a 1 to 1 ratio of chlorine to hydrogen, the explosive gas question, current industry definitions for askarels and the usage of either tri or tetrachlorbiphenyls as a component in transformer askarels.

(8) The question of possible substitutes for transformer askarels.

There may well be other avenues to explore but this will give you an idea as to the basic areas which we wish to explore with your people. We, of course, will outline for your people the importance of existing aroclors to us, our various businesses, our customers, etc. and the chaotic condition which could arise should Monsanto institute any precipitous action affecting existing formulations.

Very truly yours,

E. L. Raab, Manager
Chemical & Processes Section

ELR:ml

Copies:

Dr. H. W. Gerarde, Fairleigh Dickinson Univ., Teaneck, New Jersey

Dr. K. R. Murphy, General Electric Co., Schenectady, New York

Dr. R. C. Osthoff, General Electric Co., Pittsfield, Mass.

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