Monsanto

FROM (NAME & LOCATION) Jack T. Garrett - Medical Department

DATE February 27, 1969

SUBJECT Aroclors - San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Board

REFERENCE

cc H. S. Bergen
J. E. Springgate
W. R. Richard
T. C. Ford
R. E. Kelly/E. P. Wheeler

TO : Aroclor - Wildlife File

Mr. H. C. Knapp of the technical staff of the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Board called our San Francisco sales office during the early part of the week, February 23-28, 1969, and asked for information about Aroclor use in the bay area. The sales office told Mr. Knapp that he would be contacted by the St. Louis Office. They referred the call by phone to Mr. T. C. Ford of Public Relations. Mr. Ford then asked the Medical Department to answer the call.

On Wednesday, February 26, 1969, Mr. J. T. Garrett of the Medical Department staff called Mr. Knapp. Knapp said that he called because of concern expressed by his Board Chairman over an article that had appeared in the Monday, February 24, 1969 issue of the San Francisco Chronicle.

Mr. Knapp asked four questions about Monsanto Aroclor products. These questions were:

1. How are these products used in business and industry?

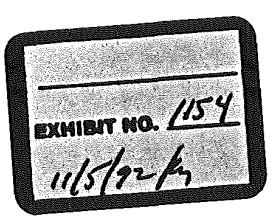
2. Does Monsanto manufacture or use appreciable quantities in its Bay Area plants?

3. Where does Monsanto store or warehouse these products in the Bay Area and in these operations is there any repackaging?

4. What analytical techniques are used to analyze for these products in water?

Mr. Garrett, Mr. E. P. Wheeler of the Medical Department, Mr. H. S. Bergen of Organic Division Fluids Marketing, and Dr. W. R. Richard of Organic Division Research answered the questions posed by Mr. Knapp.

Mr. Knapp was given a rather thorough briefing on the uses of Aroclors and was told that he would be given a list of the warehousing facilities in the Bay Area. He was told that Monsanto does no repackaging in these facilities. He was also



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told that Monsanto does not produce or use appreciable quantities in its Bay Area plants.

The question of analysis was discussed and Mr. Knapp was told that the levels indicated in the Chronicle article were determined by gas chromatographic techniques. This type of analysis requires very expensive equipment and experience with the techniques and interpretations to get any meaningful results. Mr. Knapp was further told that Aroclors are soluble in water only to the extent of 200 parts per billion (ppb) and that the levels found in water are not considered hazardous to humans or aquatic life.

Mr. Knapp seemed satisfied with the information received. His technical staff will probably question some of the Monsanto customers in the Bay Area and in all probability will inspect their handling techniques. It is also probable that they will inspect all warehousing facilities in the Bay Area where Aroclors are stored.

Mr. Knapp's address and telephone number is:

Mr. H. C. Knapp
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Quality Board
364 14th St., 3rd Floor
Oakland, California 94612
Telephone: (415) 834-3460 - Ext. 536.

Jack T. Garrett

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