October 4, 1972

Mr. Gerald Mears
Alcan Aluminum
Oswego, New York 13126

Dear Mr. Mears:

Monsanto's Mr. L. T. Johnson has informed me of your inquiry relating to the presence of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and polychlorinated terphenyls (PCTs) in Pydraul 312A and Pydraul 312C.

Polychlorinated terphenyls were present in Pydraul 312A as a major fire resistant component. Polychlorinated biphenyls were found to be present in trace amounts as contaminants.

Neither PCBs or PCTs are used as ingredients in the formulation of Pydraul 312C. In addition, these materials are not present in the processing equipment used in its manufacture. In fact, except for electrical transformers and capacitors, there are no PCBs or PCTs present in the plant in which Pydraul 312C is formulated. To the best of our knowledge and belief there are no PCBs or PCTs present in Pydraul 312C.

Studies to determine the effect of PCBs on aquatic life have not established that PCBs are toxic to fresh water fish. Studies involving PCTs have not been extensive but limited work conducted for Monsanto indicate that they are less toxic than PCBs. It appears that the only well-documented effect is the build-up of PCBs in the tissues of fish exposed to waters containing even very low concentrations of PCBs.

I hope this information is useful to you and if I can be of further help, please let me know.

Sincerely,

W. B. Papageorge
Manager
Environmental Protection

WBP/bt

cc: Mr. M. DeCastro
Alcan Aluminum

Mr. L. T. Johnson
Monsanto Company

bcc: C. Paton
J. H. Davidson
P. L. Slayton - N.Y.