PETITION TO THE ILLINOIS POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

September 21,1972

We, the undersigned, hereby petition the Illinois Pollution Control Board to hold informational hearings on PCB's in the environment, with the view of establishing a regulation to ban the use of PCB's except for such essential uses as may be developed in the course of the hearings.

STATEMENT OF NEED

Experts on PCB's have testified that PCB's (polychlorinated biphenyl) are building up in Lake Michigan game fish, and salmonids exceed the 5ppm maximum allowable level recommended by FDA.

Monsanto, the only U.S. manufacturer of PCB's, has testified that they have restricted distribution, and agencies have tried to restrict discharges of this chemical. Neither action has led to PCB reduction in Lake Michigan fish.

The current residue maximum is 5ppm in fish for human consumption, but FDA is likely to review this in light of research showing the effect level in primate reproduction is less than 215 ppm.

A large economic loss to the commercial and sportfish industry has resulted and no doubt will be effected to a greater degree due to the food recommendations and to enforcement.

PCB's are reaching our environment from airborne sources, land disposal, and careless dumping.

Research men feel that many uses of PCB's can be eliminated or replaced.

Analytical data show beyond a reasonable doubt that PCB's are contaminating the environment.

Health officials say consumption of anything saturated with PCB can cause very serious poisoning in humans.

Careless industrial discharges are suspected of contaminating water flowing into Lake Michigan. Fish then absorb the chemical.

Foreign sources of PCB's are also entering our environment.

It is for these reasons that we believe the Illinois Pollution Control Board should hear testimony on this pollutant and amend Chapter 3: Water Pollution of the Illinois Pollution Control Board Rules and Regulations to establish water quality and effluent standards for this contaminant.

Respectfully submitted,
Eileen L. Johnston

Eileen L. Johnston
505 Maple Ave.
Wilmette, Illinois

MONS 097259