

STATE MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Leidschendam, Dokter Beijerstr.
Telefoon 070-69 42 11

Re: Polychlorobiphenyl Products.-

Leidschendam, July 23, 1971

During the research into the pollution problem, important quantities of persistent Polychlorobiphenyl-compounds have been found in the environment. It appeared that, PCB's are absorbed by organisms and so concentrated in the food, that in the end it can lead to the death of certain animals.

PCB's are used by certain industries for different applications e.i. the use in the electrical industry, in paints, glues, and "coatings", in the graphic industry and many other branches of industry.

Sweden will severely limit the applications of those products.

Producers, such as Monsanto, started already on a voluntary basis, to channel the sale of PCB's in such a way, that applications which can pollute the environment, are excluded. Here we have to draw the attention to the fact that the influence of Monsanto is limited to the markets where this company is sole-seller.

In our country different companies are selling PCB-containing products.

It is the intention of the state, after stock-taking of the applications in our country to come to a "gentleman's agreement" whereby the required reorganisation of the applications can be achieved on a voluntary basis.

This is the reason why this letter is addressed to you; and why we ask you to cooperate in order to realise this reorganisation.

I would like to know from you which PCB-containing products are being sold and what categories of off-takers are involved.

I would like to have your answer by September 15, 1971.

As soon as we have a summary of this matter, we will again contact you.

HEADINSPECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH