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PCBs limited in state waters

MADISON, Wis. (UPI) — Despite arguments from the paper industry, the state Natural Resources Board decided Thursday to limit the discharge of PCBs into state waters.

Levels of PCBs or ploychlorinated dithenyls, a chemical linked with cancer, have been found in fish taken from Wisconsin waters.

The board also asked the legislature to prohibit the sale, manufacture or use of PCBs.

The board said the discharge of PCBs would be limited to 10 parts per billion effective Feb. 1, 1977, and five parts per billion in 1977.

The vote was 6-0 with John Brogan of Green Bay, a stockholder in the Fort Howard Paper Co., abstaining.

James Derouin, an attorney for the Wisconsin Paper Council, said the board's decision "would devastate the waste paper recycling industry in Wisconsin, without achieving any net reduction of PCBs in the environment."

Board Chairman Harold Jordahl expressed "grave concern" about PCB levels found in fish caught in Wisconsin waters.

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