

**FLEISHMAN
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Marjorie Brooks

December 5, 1991

Memorandum**TO:** Loren W. Wassell
Kevin S. Cahill
Andrea H. Smith**FROM:** Marjorie Brooks

Attached for your information is the story on the former Krummrich landfill that ran yesterday on the UPI state wire in Illinois.

On balance, the story is a positive one. Although it states incorrectly that Monsanto was "fined" \$150,000, the story includes several comments from Andi and from Bill Boyle.

Attachment**cc:** Robert L. Peirce

Post-It™ brand fax transmittal memo 7671		# of pages ▶	
To	Kevin Cahill	From	Marjorie Brooks
Co.	Monsanto	Co.	Fleishman-Hillard
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DSW 134365

(mo.)

Monsanto to examine former landfill

SAUGET, Ill. (UPI) — Monsanto Co. Wednesday agreed to comprehensive studies at its contaminated former landfill in southwestern Illinois to determine what corrective action must be taken, a move that settled a 9-year-old lawsuit against the St. Louis firm.

The company was also fined \$150,000 to cover state government costs already incurred on the cleanup.

The 36-acre Krummrich landfill in Sauget was used between 1959 to 1977 to dispose of waste from the Krummrich plant and from other Monsanto facilities in the St. Louis area. The fenced-in landfill now has a clay cap and has been covered with soil and seeded.

Monsanto spokeswoman Andi Smith said the landfill contains products and by-products used to make various chemicals. Some of the substances are considered hazardous, Smith said, "but only if they are improperly used or stored."

Some of the waste has seeped into groundwater and leaked into the Mississippi River.

Monsanto agreed to make the determination as part of a consent decree worked out with the attorney general's office and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency.

The company has hired an environmental engineering firm to investigate conditions at the site and determine what action needs to be
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taken. The study is expected to take 18 months and will be monitored by the IEPA.

"This landfill does not represent current Monsanto waste-disposal practices," said William J. Boyle, Monsanto's plant manager. "It was built more than 30 years ago, in compliance with existing state law of that era. But landfill designs were not as sophisticated then and the state of environmental knowledge was not as advanced."

"This process will determine what action is required to ensure the long-term protection of public health and the environment."

Attorney General Roland Burris said the studies will eventually lead to a plan for the cleanup of hazards on the site. It is not yet possible to estimate how much the cleanup will ultimately cost Monsanto but Burris said it would likely be in the millions of dollars.

Also, Monsanto will have to pay a total of \$150,000 to the state to cover response oversight costs already incurred by the state. Of that total, \$143,000 will go to the Hazardous Waste Fund and \$7,000 to the Environmental Protection Fund.

The consent decree will conclude a suit filed in 1982 by the attorney general's office in St. Clair County Circuit Court.

The suit by the attorney general's office was one of several designed to clean up the Sauget area. Cerro Copper Products Co. of Sauget entered into an agreement with the state in July 1990 to clean up its section of Dead Creek in Sauget.

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