W. B. PAPGEORGE - ST. LOUIS

March 29, 1971

J. R. Durland - TOKYO
D. Danna - DAKAR

S. Ueno - TOKYO

I appreciate your concern regarding the environmental acceptability of the various materials which are being offered by Monsanto Company as replacements for the conventional polychlorinated biphenyl products.

Laboratory tests have shown that Aroclor 1221, HB-40 and MIPB easily degrade, therefore assuring us they will not continue to accumulate in the environment.

The difference in degradability between Aroclor 1242 and MCS 1016 (formerly Aroclor 1242B) is a matter of degree. We have never claimed instant or complete degradation, but we have claimed that the isomers which are the most persistent have been removed. We believe this represents a step in the right direction.

Our available information on Aroclor 5442 and Aroclor 5460 is sketchy. To date they have not been identified as environmental problems. We are conducting toxicity and biodegradation studies which are well underway but are being hampered by a lack of adequate analytical methodology to enable us to determine concentrations at extremely low levels. I anticipate that results from these studies should be available by mid-year.

I am enclosing copies of reports, letters, etc. which refer to biodegradability and toxicity of these materials. If I recall correctly, additional information was forwarded in the past to Dr. J. R. Durland's office. Perhaps copies of these are still available. If they cannot be located, please let me know what additional data is required.

W. B. PAPAGEORGE

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Enclosures