



7838 Big Bend Boulevard, St. Louis, Missouri 63119
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CLIENT: Monsanto Company

STATION: KSDK Ch. 5

PROGRAM: NewsChannel 5

TIME: 6:00 P.M.

DATE: 12/4/91

CITY: St. Louis

RICK EDLUND: "The state of Illinois and Monsanto have reached an agreement that will lead to the cleanup of a chemical dump that has begun leaking into the Mississippi River and as NewsChannel 5's Jeff Fowler reports the first job will be to determine how many chemicals there are and how much of it is leaking out."

JEFF FOWLER: "It looks like an ordinary field behind the locked gate but buried below here are an estimated one-quarter of a million tons of chemical waste. State officials say monitoring wells have picked up traces of PCBs and other cancer causing chemicals."

BILL BOYLE (Monsanto plant manager): "There's no question that many of those products that we are talking about that were manufactured back in the '50s and '60s were hazardous chemicals. Of course, the key here is that there is no public exposure whatsoever."

FOWLER: "Most of the chemicals came from Monsanto's Sauget plant. They were buried between 1959 and 1977."

"There is no disputing that some of the chemicals have made their way out of the landfill into the Mississippi River. Monsanto says it's a relatively small amount, about 30 to 40 pounds a day but state officials say they fear without some kind of cleanup the problem will get much worse."

"But Boyle says the leakage so far poses no threat."

BOYLE: "At that particular point in the Mississippi River, for example, the flow rate is a million gallons a second so a small amount of seepage actually cannot be measured at all."

FOWLER: "Under today's agreement Monsanto will conduct tests and then either move the chemicals or keep them from leaking out. The Attorney General's office says the landfill is just one of many pollution problems that need to be cleaned up in the Sauget area."



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"Jeff Fowler, NewsChannel 5."

EDLUND: "Monsanto officials say testing of the site will take many months and will cost up to one million dollars."

NOTE: Similar stories aired on 5:30 and 6:30 a.m. news-casts.

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