Monsanto

FROM (NAME, LOCATION, PHONE) Dept. of Medicine & Environmental Health [redacted]-8805

DATE December 30, 1980 cc J. H. Spraul

SUBJECT General Electric PCB Paper

REFERENCE

TO George Roush

I think this is an excellent paper for the purpose that Dr. Casey describes, i.e., for internal management consumption. For external publishing, more technical detail in certain areas would be desirable, particularly on page one (1) discussing the Japanese Yusho incident. The technical analysis concerning the presence of dibenzofurans should be specifically cited.

Jim Spraul's reference to Higuchi's book on PCB Poisoning and Pollution, particularly his reference to page 65, is a misquote. That particular reference stated that the specific materials that had been quoted in the test in that paragraph had been carefully examined to rule out contamination by chlorinated dibenzofurans or benzodioxins. It did not refer to the actual samples of Yusho Rice Oil that caused the outbreak in Japan.

I think that the table on page 12 should be looked at very carefully and conclusions drawn. Specifically, the three studies alleging to show liver cancers in animals, and in fact the only three studies that purport to show cancer as a result of PCB's, all have the same name on them, our friend Renate Kimbrough. I think that a rigid analysis of those three studies as published should be performed by the authors of this paper. This effort should show that these studies are overdrawn as to conclusions. Specifically, hepatomas of mice should be addressed as not representing carinomas but in fact are a benign process.

Furthermore, this study does not address at all the question of PCB contamination of mother's milk and the effects of this or lack of them on the new born. This is a natural area of inquiry as to the persistent effects and the bioconcentration effect of PCB's. The correlation of fat sample levels in humans to blood levels and mother's milk levels should also be addressed, as this has been written about in the literature.

Except for these three minor points which I feel would add to the paper, I feel it's an excellently condensed piece of work and either in present or modified form should be submitted for publication in the referenced press.

Don

Donald L. Coleman, M.D.

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