

PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

PRESS QUERY

- (x) Divisional
() Financial
() Corporate

Date _____ Time _____

April 12, 1971, 2:30 p.m.

QUERIED BY: (REPORTER AND MEDIA)

Monte Wate, San Francisco Chronicle

QUERY: The National Observer has asked me to do a follow-up story on what is being done about the PCB/environmental problem. You will recall that the San Francisco Chronicle was one of the first papers in this country to present a lay version of the problem. What has Monsanto been doing?

ANSWER: (Mr. Wate was given a general description of Monsanto's PCB/environmental program from our initial identification and measurement stage in 1968 up to the present.)

The next logical question is "why has Monsanto gone to this effort?" The answer is that we, as the sole U.S. producer of PCB, felt a responsibility toward protecting the environment and, at the same time, a responsibility toward keeping these products in use in those systems where it performs an outstanding safety function -- which protects people. Many state and local laws require safety fluids in electrical equipment. There is no better product than PCB available for this use. (Mr. Wate asked for some background material, which I sent him -- two news releases plus the three write-ups, one on control of escape to the environment; chronic toxicity, and biodegradation studies.

TO: (X) St. Louis Bulletin Board
(X) New York Public Relations
() New York Textiles Public Relations
() West Coast Public Relations
(X) Brussels Public Relations
(X) Lloyd R. Cole
(X) William R. Papageorge
(X) Thomas L. Gossage
(X) Charles J. Smith
(X) Elmer P. Wheeler
(X) William R. Richard

MONS 057093

SOURCE OF ANSWER (List All Sources)
Files

NAME (Staffer Handling Query)
E. V. John