NOTES OF MY MEETING WITH FDA

September 1, 1971

Re: PCB

As a result of my understanding that a large multi-Government Agency meeting was to be held at FDA yesterday, I dropped by Dr. Wodicka's office during the late afternoon. The PCB meeting had adjourned and Wodicka had gone into a budget meeting. While waiting for Wodicka, Dr. Albert Kolbye (Wodicka's deputy) asked me to come to his office. I explained that I was waiting for Wodicka to determine whether there would be any public release as a result of that afternoon's meeting. Kolbye said that there would no later than Friday be such a release and that the punch line was that the matter was too big for FDA handling it along. He suggested that our people be prepared to answer inquiries which may result from the release on the basis of suggesting the "good" uses — the "essential" uses in order to place the subject in perspective. He understood why I would like to have a notice of the release a little in advance of it being given to the press. He telephoned Jack Walden, the public information officer, gave him my name and telephone number and instructions that Walden call me as soon as he felt he could give me the language of the release. Kolbye handed me a 4-page paper prepared by him and entitled Current Status of Toxilogical Effects of PCB. That material is being sent to you this morning on the DEX I machine with the understanding that it will be maintained confidentially and above all that it not be attributed to FDA. Kolbye found it necessary to ask Wodicka for permission to release this paper under these circumstances.

While waiting for Wodicka, Kolbye continued to discuss PCB and I continued to listen.

DSW 332165

I was surprised to hear him say that imports of foreign PCB were suspect. He asked whether we had any estimates of the volumes of imports. He asked whether there were dioxins contained in the imports and particularly in Kanechlor 400; also whether they contained Dibenzol Furans or Chlorinated Napthalenes. He also stated that it was suspected that European products were very impure. You understand that I had heretofore advised Wodicka that the two year test result would probably be available during September---Kolbye was extremely interested. Kolbye asked whether other heat exchange fluids-Dowthern-contained PCBs and whether "newer heat exchange fluids" were toxic. He asked whether lubricant manufacturers used Aroclors. He stated that it would be most helpful to know what our historical production figures and major uses had been and mentioned a 10 -20 year time frame. I, of course, was unable to respond to any of his specific questions, but did advise him that the matter of furnishing production figures had been an issue for many months. I told him that Congressman Ryan had raised the matter and we had advised that under conditions of extreme confidentiality and agreement as to the receptacle, such figures might be furnished.

At that juncture Wodicka returned and we reconvened in his office. Deputy Commissioner Jim Grant was present as well as another gentleman whose name I did not get but who contributed nothing but silence to the meeting. DSW 332166

The long and short of this second meeting was that FDA hoped that the Monsanto PCB experts would be willing to discuss the subject with FDA -- and soon. A check of the calendar indicated that Wednesday morning, September 8 was the best date for such a meeting. It was suggested that probably the Commissioner, Dr. Edwards, would attend.

Dr. Wodicka handed me some questions which are likewise being Dexed this morning to you. The hand written notes at the bottom of the Quinn are mine and were propounded by Dr. Wodicka.

NCR was mentioned by name and carbonless carbon paper was referred to several times. I have the distinct feeling that there is perhaps little about this subject that is not known by FDA and if my feeling is correct, I see no reason not to meet on Wednesday (assuming that the proper people can be present) and several reasons why we should.

In my judgement Dr. Kelly and/or Elmer Wheeler and Bill Papageorge would be the likely attendees on behalf of Monsanto. Dr. Wodicak or Dr. Kolbye are the contacts and either can be called directly or we can handle the details through this office.

Kolbye and Wodicka's telephone number is:

Area Code 202 - 962-1431

Sam Pickard

DSW 332167

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