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Monsanto

DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE & ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Monsanto Company
800 N. Lindbergh Boulevard
St. Louis, Missouri 63166
Phone: (314) 694-1000

June 24, 1977

Robert P. Carter
Industrial Hygienist
Aluminum Company of America
1501 Alcoa Building
Pittsburgh, Penn. 15219

Dear Mr. Carter:

Regarding the information you requested on toxicity and safe handling procedures for the Aroclor® chlorodiphenyl materials, I have enclosed the following:

1. Monsanto Company Corporate Medical Department Toxicity Information sheet on Aroclor® 1016.

2. The AIHA Hygienic Guide on Chlorodiphenyls.

3. The NIOSH/OSHA Draft Technical Standard on chlorodiphenyl. (Please note that this publication is by no means a regulation, but does offer suggested guidelines on handling these materials. The appendices also provide useful data on work practices.)

In our earlier discussion, I probably led you to believe that PCB's were not that acutely toxic. However, in reviewing the animal toxicity data on skin irritation, I noted that Aroclor® 1016 did result in a severe degree of irritation when held in continuous contact with rabbit skin. Although we have not experienced this degree of reaction among workers handling PCB's, it is advisable that particular care be taken in preventing skin and eye contact.

If you require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (314) 694-2187. Thank you.

Best regards,

Bruce W. Eley
Senior Industrial Hygienist

BWE:alw
cc: J.T. Garrett, A2SG
J. Coleman Weber, B2SK