AEROVOX INDUSTRIES, INC.
New Bedford Mass. 02741

AUG 27 1975

August 25, 1975

EIA PCB AD HOC COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF AUGUST 21, 1975 MEETING

Following are the minutes of a meeting held at EIA Headquarters on Thursday, August 21. The meeting convened at 10:00 a.m. and adjourned at approximately 4:30 p.m. In attendance were the following persons: J. Butner-Sangamo; Ray Clark-Universal; H. W. Dornbush-McGraw Edison; Bud Dibble-P.R. Mallory; Richard Hauser-EUC; Philip Murray-Cornell Dubilier; W. Papageorge-Monsanto; Tyler Nourse-EIA; Dick Rollins-Jard; Stu Richel-G.E.; George Wallis-P.R. Mallory; Roger E. Wills, Jr.-Westinghouse; Cliff Tuttle-Aerovox. The topics covered were as follows:

1. EPA GAME PLAN

a. Glen Schweitzer, Head Toxic Substances decided to use PCB's (despite EIA Position Paper) as the chemical to justify the need for passage of the Toxic Substances Act;

b. Gathered info on PCB's in fish from Hudson, Orange County, Great Lakes, etc.;

c. Ogden Reid of New York then upstaged EPA which forced it to kill the 8/14 press release...

1. Schweitzer group meeting 8/26 on new release for 8/29.

d. Blake Biles, an attorney in enforcement, co-ordinated the mailing of 80+ questionnaires on 8/15;

e. Interagency meeting held to make sure government purchase specs indicate whether the parts contain PCB or not; also to demand government agencies set the example in handling PCB's;

f. Interagency meeting on press release resulted in favorable support for industry; PCB's needed for continued use in caps with long-term eventual phase out;

g. Proposed Regulation to be promulgated in December '75 will have different requirements for different source

1. [illegible] PLAN (Continued)

points but perhaps one standard for all PCB compositions.

2. [illegible] SITUATION

a. Duluth lab report on Hudson River bass triggered when it finally got to Reid;

b. Reid may be using PCB's to further political life...

1. decisions based therefore on emotion,

2. possibly wanted to beat EPA to punch on release,

3. was real risk of shutdown of G.E. Probably now defused by logic and technical information. Major argument is the unemployment that would result...

a. G.E. under real pressure to commit to expedited steps towards zero discharge so Reid can make press release on results of his efforts (Reid dealing personally but through subordinates).

c. Anticipate increased publicity on N.Y. situation in the Times as well as other papers...

1. will affect action in other states;

2. one article questioning PCB link to cancer.

d. Probably will be extended to all PCB in environment - not just discharges to streams...

1. landfill, sewer and customer rejects, including end products;

2. may require examination of the health today of past employees.

3. DRAFT OF [illegible] PLAN PASSED OUT BY MONSANTO

a. Comments requested from all members;

3. DRAFT OF SPILL PLAN PASSED OUT BY MONSANTO (Continued)

b. Phil Murray in charge of co-ordinating revisions and formulation of final document...

1. Comments to Phil Murray of C.D. (cc: Bill Papageorge) by 9/15 from all...

a. Mallory & G.E. plan;

b. Rome, Georgia input by Stu.

7. WISCONSIN SITUATION

a. Competition between three or four states - Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota and Illinois - to issue ban...

1. Determined ban is illegal but limitation on effluent discharge ok.

b. August 28 & 29 hearings presently not critical for cap mfrs but following could be end result...

1. Ban on cap mfr customers landfilling any scrap caps or end product containing PCB capacitors;

2. Could legislate zero discharge of PCB's which could be a forerunner of legislation introduced in other states including those in which cap plants are located.

c. Source of Great Lakes PCB's are not due to current PCB usage, except perhaps imports. It comes from...

1. Paper recylers (old carbons had PCB's);

2. Old hydraulic equipment contained PCB's;

3. Decreased for awhile but now plateauing. May not start further decline for a few years.

d. Rich Rollins to testify at the Aug. 28 & 29 Wisconsin hearings for EIA with his position generally following the EIA Position Paper, although emphasizing certain aspects such as fire retardancy. Rich will be assisted in preparation by Stu Richel.

5. [illegible] RESULTS TO DATE FROM INITIAL DISTRIBUTION OF EIA POSITION PAPER

a. Acknowledged by EPA;

b. Train letter to EIA in answer to Frank Zorb (FEO) letter on energy impact of EPA action;

c. Dept. of Commerce acknowledgement and support.

6. [illegible] ON EPA QUESTIONNAIRE

a. Reasonable extension request should be granted;

b. Product definition is "closed system oil impreganted paper/film/foil capacitors";

c. In answering 2e, sales will be considered consumer;

d. Questions appearing to be "Not Applicable" are 1,3, 4;

e. Answer to question 5 must include the following type of scrap...

1. barrels landfilled or sold to surplus dealers;

2. barrels incinerated;

3. capacitors scrapped with approximate Aroclor content.

f. Answer to question 6 could be Aroclor part numbers, not chemical compositions.

7. INDIVIDUAL COMMITTEE MEMBER ACTION

a. Each company should contact - personally, if possible - its Representatives in the House and Senate explaining the capacitor industry situation and providing a copy of the EIA Position Paper...

1. this should be done thoroughly and quickly;

2. EIA will pick up those legislators from States that have no committee members but which appear to be interested or influential (Tuttle to supply such a list and other members to also make

f. INDIVIDUAL COMMITTEE MEMBER ACTION (Continued)

suggestions of friends of business, environmentalists and other interested legislators).

g. [illegible] will contact the Assistant Secretary of Interior on the EIA Position Paper.

h. [illegible] POSITION ON ALTERNATIVE DIELECTRIC SYSTEMS

a. Emphasize money and time spent in research to find replacements;

b. None yet located without substantial compromise to current product...

1. phthalate esters - not fire retardant, more expensive, temperature limited in application;

2. sulfones - not fire retardant, more expensive and not yet commercially available;

3. Dow silicone - not fire retardant, lower DK so 50% -100% more expensive per microfarad, not commercially available;

4. Mineral oil - not fire retardant, low DK so 50% to 100% more expensive per microfarad;

5. Metallized polypropylene - not commercially available, little test data, voltage limited to 370 VAC.

10. [illegible] LOCAL (STATE) GOVERNMENT ACTIVITY BY MEMBER COMMITTEES

a. Limit to Administrative and Technical contracts until legislation is being considered or hearings are imminent;

b. Do, though, maintain Administrative contact;

c. Stay away from legislature until PCB problem surfaces.

MONS 029233