

From MONSANTO CHEMICAL COMPANY
At Texas City, Texas

cc P. C. Kelly
Research File

Date May 29, 1958

To Dr. R. Ernest Kelly Reference

At St. Louis, Mo. Subject Benzene in Polyethylene

The plant has requested information on the amount of benzene that can be safely left in the polyethylene used in food packaging. At present the only available information they have is that the fresh unrefined pellets contain 400-500 ppm of benzene and the refined pellets 50 ppm. Actually the above figures should probably be considered much less since normal degassing in 72 hours is approximately 50% and it will usually be several weeks before the material would reach a customers molding process. They have no information on how much is left in the polymer after it passes through a molding machine but since the machines operate at 350°C there shouldn't be much benzene left.

Since the unrefined product is already on the market, their question now is whether there is an acceptable limit already established for benzene in polyethylene. They are rather late requesting this information but they needed to first obtain reliable information on the amount of benzene present. If refining is necessary to reduce the level to 50 ppm the production cost will certainly be increased. Any further lowering would really get expensive.

What is your opinion? Is 400 ppm too high? If so, do you have any idea as to what would be acceptable? Also, do you need more information before giving us an answer?

John E. Fox
→ John E. Fox

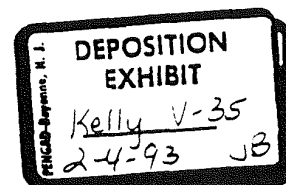
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MONSANTO INSURANCE COMPANY LITIGATION: MAY 25, 1990 ORDER PROTECTED MATERIAL
TREAT AS PROTECTED UNDER ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE AND WORK PRODUCT DOCTRINE.



TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE
IN AND FOR NEW CASTLE COUNTY

MONSANTO COMPANY,

Plaintiff,

V.

AETNA CASUALTY & SURETY COMPANY,

al.,

Defendants.

Civil Action Number

88C-JA-118-1-CV

NON-ARBITRATION
CASE

KELLY DEPOSITION EXHIBITS

PROTECTED MATERIAL: MONSANTO
INSURANCE COVERAGE LITIGATION

Washington, D. C.

Thursday, February 4, 1993

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