BC: D. T. Berns

Monsanto

PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

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

March 27, 1980

Mr. James Ellis
Business Week Magazine
645 N. Michigan Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60611

Dear Jim:

Enclosed is a copy of our PCB White Paper which describes Monsanto's involvement with these products over the years.

I've also enclosed a copy of a HEW news release covering the often ignored NCI report which concludes that Aroclor (PCB) is not a carcinogen. An earlier very controversial test done by a researcher at the Center for Communicative Disease in Atlanta had concluded that PCBs were carcinogenic in laboratory rats.

This single study has become the basis for the carcinogen label used frequently by EPA, the news media and others. All this -- despite the fact that the study has been repeatedly refuted by other independent scientists who have reviewed the work and despite the more recent NCI evidence to the contrary.

Such is the way with products that get labeled cancer-causing. Once they are tagged as even suspect, it's almost impossible to shake that image.

Hope this is helpful. If you have any follow-up questions, please give me a call.

Sincerely,

Dan R. Bishop
Director, Environmental Communications

/ec

Enclosure