January 14, 1972

Dr. Robert F. Billue
Technical Director
Thiele Kaolin Company
P. O. Box 1056
Sandersville, Georgia 31082

Dear Dr. Billue:

Your letter addressed to Mr. Howard Bergen and dated December 29 was forwarded to me for response since I have been closely involved with the PCB environmental problem.

It is possible that the trace quantities of PCB found in your clay were due to the vapor leaks you experienced. However, other sources, such as chemicals used, should not be completely discounted. Whatever the source may have been, Monsanto's program which severely restricts the use of PCB's, should result in the elimination of all known sources of contamination.

To the best of my knowledge the FDA is watching very closely the PCB levels being found in food packaging, but at this time has not found it necessary to take action because the levels have been very low. I do not believe the small amounts detected in your clay would create a problem the FDA could not tolerate. However, I am well aware of the demands by many food packaging users insisting on zero detectable PCB content.

The publicized guideline quantities at which the FDA suggests action be taken are as follows:

Fish	-	5.0 ppm
Poultry	-	5.0 ppm in fat or
		5.0 ppm in total edible
Milk	-	0.2 ppm
Eggs	-	0.5 ppm
Catfish Feed	-	3.0 ppm

I am not aware of a guideline relating to turkey feed.

I have enclosed a copy of information released by FDA authorities at a September, 1971 press conference.

I hope you find this infonmation useful. If I can be of further service, please let me know.

Sincerely,

W. B. Papageorge
Manager
Environmental Protection

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