PCB - PR

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air and water news

● McGraw-Hill's weekly report on environmental pollution: the law, the markets, the technology

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SWEDEN EXPECTED TO BAN PCB: The Swedish Board of Natural Conservation last week requested that Parliament forbid the import and use of polychlorinated biphenyls. Parliament is expected to go along. In making the announcement, the board said that electrical equipment makers will probably be exempted from the ban, but there would be strict control of its storage and disposal. Sweden does not make PCB, but imports roughly 500 metric tons annually, primarily from Monsanto in the U.S. and Britain, Prodelec in France and Bayer in West Germany.

...PCB is extremely long-lived and has been found in fish and birds. Cases of PCB poisoning (from an oil product) have been noted in Japan. Valfrid Paulsson, head of the conservation board, said results of the PCB findings have been given to the Soviet Union and Finland, which are thinking of banning the material. The proposed Swedish ban would be effective January 1, 1972.

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