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Interim Measures Program (revised)

This document describes the interim measures required for all owners of PCB Transformers, PCB-Contaminated Transformers and PCB capacitors who wish to continue to use transformers and capacitors containing PCBs while EPA conducts further rulemaking with respect to PCB uses which the Agency previously had designated as "totally enclosed." To continue to use transformers and capacitors containing PCBs during this interim period, owners of this equipment must institute the entire program set forth in this document by no later than one month after the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit stays its mandate in EDF v. EPA, No. 79-1580 during further rulemaking in response to a joint petition filed with it January 21, 1981.

I. Definitions

The following definitions apply to this document. The definitions which are part of EPA's PCB Ban Rule, 40 CFR Part 761, also apply to this document unless they are inconsistent with the definitions set forth below.

A. "cleaning" of a transformer would be removal of exposed dielectric fluid from the external metal surface but would not include removal of any solidified dielectric fluid on the gasket material.

B. "continual leak" means any instance in which a leak has occurred on a PCB article more than two times.

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electrical isolation (shutdown). The extent of the visual inspection will depend on the physical constraints of each transformer installation.

H. "widespread exposure risk" means any situation which provides the potential for PCBs to contaminate directly waterways, bodies of water (including drainage ditches, holding ponds, lagoons), food products or feed products.

II. The following procedures must be followed with respect to all PCB Capacitors (large high voltage and large low voltage):

A. By one year from February 20, 1981, the present location of every PCB capacitor (rack) shall be identified and evaluated for whether it presents a widespread exposure risk.

B. Records relating to the identification and evaluation of PCB capacitor locations shall be maintained for a period of three years and shall be made available for inspection, upon request, by EPA, FDA, or USDA.

C. By two years from February 20, 1981, existing capacitor banks presenting widespread exposure risks shall be relocated to safer locations or replaced with non-PCB capacitors.

A. A visual inspection of each PCB Transformer posing no exposure risk to food and feed products shall be performed at least once every three months.

B. All leaks shall be recorded and the transformer properly cleaned. Cleaning is required whenever leaked material has migrated beyond the gasket material of the transformer. If a transformer is found to have an excessive or continual leak, servicing of the transformer is required to correct the leak if the transformer is to be continued in use.

C. Records, containing inspection/maintenance history, with respect to all PCB Transformers are to be maintained for a period of three years and shall be made available for inspection, upon request, by EPA, FDA, or USDA.