Monsanto

FROM (NAME—LOCATION—PHONE) J. C. Weber - B2SK

DATE : July 26, 1979

cc: R. L. Harness - 1920

SUBJECT :

REFERENCE :

TO : C. F. Callis - B2SA

X D Wood

PCB

FDA

2.0

Per our conversation, I spoke to Lane Ralph in Senator Luger's office in Indianapolis concerning PCBs. Senator Luger's office was contacted by the Great Lakes Fisheries Council concerning FDA's proposed regulation to reduce the PCB limit in fish from 5 ppm to 2.5 ppm. The Council wants to challenge the FDA on this action and Senator Luger is considering requesting a public hearing on this proposal.

They called Monsanto to find out if we had any new information, especially PCB effects on human health that would aid them in having the level remain at 5 ppm in fish. I told Mr. Ralph that we have not completed any new studies, but we do have epidemiology studies underway at our Krummrich plant and also plan to conduct a study in our Anniston plant on the workers that were involved in the production of PCBs, however, we do not expect to have this study completed until sometime late next year.

In general, I told Mr. Ralph that a public hearing would only give a platform for the people that want to reduce the level from 5 to 2.5 as there are really no data to refute this. It is our understanding that the level of PCBs in the Great Lakes is going down. He confirmed this in a report that he has from Butler University. Mr. Ralph will send us a copy of this report. I left it with him if he needed anything else to give us a call.

J. C. Weber

J. C. Weber

cmd