The University of Wisconsin

WATER CHEMISTRY LABORATORY
MADISON, WISCONSIN 53706
262-2470
AREA CODE 608

March 26, 1969

Dr. R. D. Swisher, Research Group Leader
Monsanto Company
800 North Lindbergh Boulevard
St. Louis, Missouri 63166

Dear Dr. Swisher:

I am writing you to ask for your assistance in establishing contacts within Monsanto with individuals who are working on environmental pollution with PCB (polychlorobiphenyl) compounds.

As you no doubt are aware, some of the published and soon to be published reports implicate Monsanto's arochlors as being a general environmental pollutant which may be of biological significance. The information available to date is largely circumstantial. However, we feel that there is sufficient information available to warrant our initiation of a study in this area. Specifically, we would want to attempt to isolate, identify and otherwise characterize the compounds which are consistently showing up in gas chromatograph chromatograms of fish and birds. Once we are certain that these compounds are likely to be industrial pollutants, then we would initiate a study on the aqueous environmental chemistry of these compounds, i. e., where do they come from? what happens to them in natural waters and sediments, etc?

I feel that representatives of Monsanto could save us some time and effort by providing us with information on the use of the various arochlors which are likely to become environmental pollutants? What is known about the composition of the mixtures, etc? We would be interested in meeting with a representative of Monsanto to discuss this problem.

Sincerely yours,

G. Fred Lee, Professor
Water Chemistry

GFL/js

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UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY · LOGAN, UTAH 84321
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

DEPARTMENT OF
ANIMAL SCIENCE

AUG 1969

July 30, 1969

Dr. Elmer P. Wheeler
Manager, Environmental Health
Monsanto Company
800 North Lindbergh Boulevard
St. Louis, Missouri 63166

Dear Dr. Wheeler:

Thank you for the information in your letter of July 16. Your research project underway with polychlorinated biphenyls is impressive and I will be very interested to learn some of the forthcoming results. Regarding the question of "no effect" levels for induction of hepatic microsomal enzymes, our data may be useful to you and we would have no objection to providing you with copies of our manuscripts when they are ready.

One aspect of our study concerns the magnitude of residue storage in adipose tissue and qualitative changes in the stored material relative to that fed. I do not intend to pursue this deeply but will make an effort to provide reasonably quantitative interpretations. Perhaps I could compare notes with you on these points before we make our presentations.

I regret that you cannot provide pure isomers of the various biphenyls since our investigations of structure vs. activity would be considerably more enhanced by having pure isomers to study. Should your plans mature to visit in laboratories working with PCB materials we will be pleased if you can arrange to visit with us.

I have another question, somewhat related, which I will pose to you in the hope that you can direct it to the proper individual at Monsanto. We are making an extensive study of structure-activity relationships of hepatic enzyme inducing agents in the general class of diphenyl methane derivatives. I have been told that Monsanto has an interesting cyclopropane analogue of DDT [1-cyclopropyl-1,1-bis(parachlorophenyl)-methane], an experimental insecticide. We would appreciate a 1-5 gram sample of analytical reference grade to include in our studies if that could be arranged.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph C. Street
Professor

JCS:jw

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