Monsanto

FROM
E—LOCATION—PHONE) J. H. Craddock - G4NH (4-4764)

DATE : May 2, 1983 CC.

SUBJECT : Monthly Report - April, 1983
PCB Surveillance

REFERENCE :

TO : W. B. Papageorge

HIGHLIGHTS

New Regulations

- The industry/environmentalist task group from EDF, NRDC and CMA formally presented the proposed consensus rule to EPA for regulation of incidental PCBs April 13.

  No response has been received yet from EPA on the "consensus program," however, press and media actions have been quite favorable.

General

- [redacted]

Product/Site Issues

- A meeting was held with representatives of Avtex Fibers (formerly FMC and American Viscose) to discuss their recent EPA citation and associated fines and clean-up costs for PCB site/equipment contamination resulting from use of Therminol FR fluids prior to 1972. Both Monsanto and Avtex were represented by legal counsel.

- Fendett Corporation, St. Charles, Missouri, was identified in the Post Dispatch by the State Department of Natural Resources as one of 14 major contaminated hazardous waste sites in Missouri which present environmental health hazards.

  Fendett, identified as a reprocessor of PCBs and PCB products from 1963-1974, performed contract work for MIC Functional Fluids Business Group and currently is an outside contractor for MIC.

SUMMARY

1. Objective

   Influence more reasonable regulation of PCBs by State and Federal agencies.

Status

New PCB Regulations -

- The industry/environmentalist task group from EDF, NRDC and CMA formally presented the proposed consensus rule to EPA for regulation of incidental PCBs April 13.

  Jackie Warren represented the environmentalist groups; CMA was represented by legal counsel and company representatives on the CMA panel, including Monsanto (JHC) and Dow. Several representatives of the trade press also attended the presentation and discussion at EPA headquarters.

  EDF suggested that the Agency could accept the joint proposal of industry and environmentalists and publish the proposed rule in the Federal Register for comments. If no significant comments or changes occurred, the Agency could resolve this PCB issue efficiently and quickly by proposing it as a final rule.

  Press treatment of the environmentalist (EDF)/industry (CMA) "consensus rule" on incidental PCBs presented to EPA has been very favorable. No other responses from EPA on this subject has been noted by either member of the consensus group.

  Monsanto, Dow and other CMA PCB Task Force members have been informally approached by EDF and asked to again support the consensus rulemaking approach to resolve EDF's most recent challenge to the new August 25, 1983 "totally enclosed" PCB electrical equipment rule.

2. Objective

[redacted]

Status

[redacted]

Therminol Customer Meeting -

- A meeting was held with representatives of Avtex Fibers (formerly FMC and American Viscose) to discuss their recent EPA citation and associated fines and clean-up costs for PCB site/equipment contamination resulting from use of Therminol FR fluids prior to 1972. Both Monsanto and Avtex were represented by legal counsel. Monsanto's position remains that we took proper steps to inform customers of PCB concerns in 1971 and made every effort to pro-

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vide information and assistance in removing and disposal of PCBs. Keeping informed of changes and new PCB regulations when issued (e.g., 1979) is the user's responsibility.

Specialty Chemicals Outside Processors -

- Fendett Corporation, St. Charles, Missouri, was identified in the Post Dispatch by the State Department of Natural Resources as one of 14 major contaminated hazardous waste sites in Missouri which present environmental health hazards.

  Fendett, identified as a reprocessor of PCBs and PCB products from 1963-1974, performed contract work for MIC Functional Fluids Business Group and currently is an outside contractor for MIC.

  The site was one identified as "time bombs that at some point are going to cause major environmental problems" by the State DNR Director and was used as justification for a ten year $50M State Superfund Program.

3. Objective

Provide initiatives to reduce public hysteria and develop more reasonable understanding of PCB health and environmental effects.

Status

ACGIH Industrial Hygiene Guide -

With the assistance of DMEH staff, particularly John Henshaw, George Levinskas and Bill Gaffey, we reviewed and suggested additions and revisions to a new proposed ACGIH (American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists) industrial hygiene standard for PCBs. The last revision was in 1965. The new draft presents a balanced view of animal and human health results, including recent literature reviewed by EPA, Chemical Manufacturers Association and the Edison Electric Institute. Hopefully many of our suggestions will be incorporated in the new draft.

J. H. Craddock/dg

J. H. Craddock

/dg

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