D R A F T

July 21, 1975

Mrs. Ruth Lee
463 Jackson
Mondovi, Wisconsin 54755

Dear Mrs. Lee:

Your letter dated July 14 has been forwarded to me for response since I have been intimately associated with Monsanto's polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) products.

When questions about the effect of PCBs on the environment first surfaced, Monsanto Company reviewed its product line and the applications for these products. As more data was developed concerning the effect of PCBs, Monsanto took steps to reduce the entry of PCB into the environment. The Company stopped the sale of PCBs for use in various applications, except where no acceptable alternatives were available. Today, PCBs manufactured by Monsanto Company are sold only to the electrical industry for use in closed systems as a dielectric fluid in transformers and capacitors -- applications for which there exist no acceptable substitutes.

Thus the situation today is drastically different from conditions which existed only three years ago. Today the 40 million pounds per year of PCB, produced by Monsanto, is carefully used in the United States by less than 50 Monsanto customers in the manufacture of sealed electrical equipment.

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Prior to 1971, Monsanto sold approximately 80 million pounds per year which was used by thousands of customers.

Our manufacturing and sales reduction program was a unilateral action taken by Monsanto and was based on our evaluation of developing environmental data.

I regret that because of a company policy which prohibits the divulgence of specific customer information, I cannot respond to your request for a list of purchasers in Wisconsin and Minnesota. I can, however, inform you that there is only one purchaser of Monsanto's PCBs in Wisconsin and Minnesota, who ~~is~~ uses a very small amount (about a truckload a year) in hermetically sealed electrical equipment which I understand is exported. This purchaser fully understands the need for careful control of PCBs and takes the necessary steps to prevent pollution and properly dispose of scrap material.

I hope this information is helpful to you.

Sincerely,

W. B. Papageorge
Manager, Product Acceptability
Specialty & Process Chemicals