JAN 24 1979

CENTRAL SOLVENTS & CHEMICALS COMPANY

The Chemistributors®

General Offices • 7050 WEST 71st STREET • CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60638
TELEPHONE (312) 594-7000

PCBs - Central Solvents

January 19, 1979

Rel Tech.
(608) 241-4471

Mr. J. C. Weber
Product Acceptability Group
Monsanto Industrial Chemicals Co.
800 N. Lindbergh Blvd.
St. Louis, Mo. 63166

Dear Mr. Weber:

Wolverine Solvents & Chemicals Company, a wholly owned subsidiary of Central Solvents & Chemicals Company, is currently under investigation by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources concerning an oil spill containing various PCBs. On October 26, 1978, a report entitled "Biological Survey of Plaster Creek 1977" was mailed to me, a copy of which is enclosed. Further, on December 18, 1978, a copy of report on the laboratory analysis of core samples obtained near the Wolverine Solvents location was mailed to me, a copy of which is enclosed.

Wolverine Solvents handles many products that could be included in the various categories of contaminants set forth in the December 18 report on the laboratory analysis of core samples. Further, Wolverine did handle certain PCBs in factory packed containers.

At a meeting held Friday, December 12, 1978, Central, on behalf of Wolverine, agreed to handle the cleanup of the ditch. Central further agreed to share in the cost of the further investigation concerning the extent of the contamination. Further investigation has revealed that Wolverine Solvents did not handle all of the PCBs found in the December 18 analysis of core samples. In addition, Wolverine never had an incident concerning a factory packed drum or bag containing PCBs during the period of time that Wolverine handled the products.

It is Wolverine's position that (1) while some of the contaminants may have had a source at Wolverine's facilities, (2) none of the PCBs had a source at Wolverine's facilities and (3) other parties should share in the responsibility for the cleanup.

We are requesting general technical assistance from you concerning the nature of PCBs, possible sources and economical methods of cleaning up contaminated areas. In addition, we specifically

request that you aid us in the analysis of certain core samples to be taken by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources as soon as the ground thaws and access can be had.

Central will obviously be grateful for any help they can receive in this matter. After you have had a chance to study the enclosed information, I would appreciate your contacting me.

Very truly yours,

William D. Mulliken

WDM-r
Enc.

cc: Donald P. Doherty
Law Department
Monsanto Industrial Chemicals Co.
800 N. Lindbergh Blvd.
St. Louis, Mo. 63166

David Wood
Monsanto Industrial Chemicals Co.
800 N. Lindbergh Blvd.
St. Louis, Mo. 63166

David H. Bechtold
Monsanto Industrial Chemicals Co.
3158 Des Plaines Ave.
Des Plaines, Ill. 60018