

Monsanto

FROM : R. S. Nelson - St. Louis B3NJ 4-2025

DATE : March 28, 1979

cc. C. F. Callis - B2SA
J. S. Metcalf - B2NK

SUBJECT : STURGEON, MISSOURI

REFERENCE :

TO : J. R. Foehr - B2SA

I called Dr. Kay Camine, Region VII EPA Administrator, expressing Monsanto's concern with the continuing unfavorable press coverage of the January 10 chlorophenol spill. I asked if there was anything Monsanto might do to assist them in resolving the problem surrounding this accident/spill. She had the following comments:

- (1) They have bulldozed a dam which they are confident will prevent any surface run-off from getting into creeks or other navigable streams.
- (2) The two ponds which contained dead fish have been verified to contain chlorophenol in sufficient levels to have been acutely toxic to fish.
- (3) Western Environmental Services is going to empty these ponds through a carbon filtration system thereby removing the toxic organics. Kay Camine believes that everything is being done that needs to be done in order to properly secure the spill site.
- (4) Dr. Camine stated that EPA had engaged Dr. Ryckman of REACT as a consultant to see to the final clean-up. (I called Rick Ryckman and he stated that he had not committed to serve as a consultant, but fully expected that he would agree to contract terms before today is over -- Wednesday, March 28.)
- (5) Dr. Kay Camine said she appreciated Monsanto's offer of assistance. However, as stated before, she feels that everything is now under control.

I told Dr. Camine that although we could not be positive, we felt there was a reasonably good possibility that the chlorophenol would be biodegraded as soon as the weather became warmer.

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R. S. Nelson