# The University of Wisconsin

WATER CHEMISTRY LABORATORY
MADISON, WISCONSIN 53706
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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

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