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General Electric pay for PCB research

GENERAL Electric, a major US user of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), has agreed to pay $3 million towards the cleaning up of the Hudson River, one of several US waterways in which high concentrations of the compounds have been found. It has also agreed to pay $1 million towards related research work.

The first evidence of the possible carcinogenicity of PCBs was recently presented by Mobil researchers in a preliminary report on epidemiological studies.

At the same time Dow Chemical is to expand its production of butylated monochlorodiphenyl oxide which appears to be the only competitive substitute for PCBs as dielectrics in capacitor applications.

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Monsanto clears PCBs

MONSANTO has found no cases of either malignant melanoma or pancreatic cancer amongst more than 300 past or present workers at its Sauget, Illinois, polychlorinated biphenyls plant, according to George Roush, director of Monsanto's medical and environmental health department. This statement came in response to a recent Mobil study linking the diseases with PCBs. The Sauget plant, opened in 1936, is Monsanto's only PCB unit in the US.

(EIP)

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