

School of Public Health
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT THE MEDICAL CENTER, CHICAGO

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Mr. Garth Fort
Regulatory Management Director, State
Monsanto Company
800 N. Lindbergh
St. Louis, Mo. 63166

Dear Mr. Fort:

We are requesting your cooperation in a study being conducted by the University of Illinois School of Public Health under contract with the Illinois Institute for Energy and Natural Resources entitled "Identification of Potential Sources of Environmental Contamination with Polychlorinated Dibenzodioxins and Polychlorinated Dibenzofurans in the State of Illinois."

The purpose of this study is to collect existing data on sources of PCDDs and PCDFs in Illinois and to propose epidemiologic study designs to assess the degree of hazard, if any, associated with these sources. Our strategy is summarized in the following tasks:

1. Identify and contact Illinois producers of organic chemicals and pesticides, the production of which may lead to the inadvertant production of trace amounts of PCDDs or PCDFs.
2. Identify hazardous waste disposal sites in Illinois which may be contaminated with trace amounts of PCDDs or PCDFs.
3. Identify all municipal and industrial incinerators in Illinois.
4. Identify past usage of PCDD/PCDF contaminated pesticides in Illinois.
5. Identify industries with potential occupational exposure to PCDDs or PCDFs.
6. Design epidemiologic studies to assess the degree of hazard associated with PCDD and PCDF sources.

Please note that we are relying entirely on existing data and will not be undertaking any sampling as part of this project. Also, we will be examining the feasibility of various epidemiologic study designs; we are not carrying out an actual epidemiologic study.

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