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TELEPHONE

J. C. McPhillips - B3SC

June 26, 1979

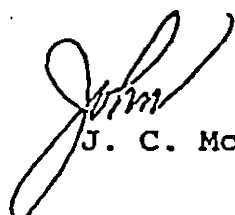
2,4 Dichlorophenol 93% Assay
Customer Letter

All Regional Managers

E. L. Head
J. S. Metcalf
M. E. Miller
R. G. Pier
F. A. Provorny
R. W. Roten
J. D. Wilson

Attached is a draft of a letter which I am requesting you to send to all of your current 2,4 DCP 93% assay customers. The purpose of this letter is to notify them of our position regarding 2,4,6 Trichlorophenol, (a by product of 2,4 DCP 93%) and a recent published NCI bioassay study which claims it to be a carcinogen.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.


J. C. McPhillips

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att.

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C17636

Dear Monsanto Customer:

This is to inform you as a purchaser of Monsanto's 2,4 Dichlorophenol 93% (2,4 DCP 93%) of recent developments relating to 2,4,6 Trichlorophenol (2,4,6 TCP), a low level by-product in our product.

2,4,6 TCP is a by-product that is generated during chlorination and is not removed in a refining step. It is present in the final product at a typical level of 3-5%.

A recently released National Cancer Institute bioassay study of 2,4,6 TCP in rats and mice asserts very weak carcinogenic responses in both species. In each species, the response is by no means clear cut. The doses used in the diet - 5,000 and 10,000 ppm - were very large. In addition, the material tested was a commercial grade material containing at least 17 impurities.

Given all of these circumstances, Monsanto does not consider 2,4,6 Trichlorophenol at a level of 3-5% in Monsanto's 2,4, DCP 93% assay to be a serious health hazard. Nevertheless, we pass this information on to you so that you can make your own assessment on the possible impact that the presence of 2,4,6 Trichlorophenol in 2,4, DCP 93% may have on your use of this product.

Although we do not believe it is necessary to reduce the level of 2,4,6 TCP in 2,4, DCP 93%, we are in the process of upgrading and expanding our chlorophenol unit. Upon completion of this project, we will be able to offer a "refined" 97% assay 2,4 Dichlorophenol which has significantly reduced levels of 2,4,6 Trichlorophenol. This 97% material will be made available in late 1979/early 1980.

Sincerely,

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