DEC 2 . 1971

PRESS QUERY

SUBJECT: PCB

SOURCE OF ANSWER: Files

COMPANY: Monsanto Industrial Chemicals Co.
Operating Unit

HANDLED BY: E. V. John

REPORTER & MEDIA: Jim Cummins, WOOD-TV, Grand Rapids, Mich.

DATE & TIME: Dec. 22, 1971, 9 a.m.

Query: The Michigan Water Resources Commission recently completed a report on Lake Michigan pollution. One item in the report mentioned they had found high levels of PCB in an outfall from Amway Corporation. We have contacted Amway and they say that up to 18 months ago they had been using PCB as a de-dusting agent to produce granule particles from fine particles. Did Monsanto know of this use and is any other detergent manufacturer using PCB in this way?

Answer: We were not aware that PCB was being used in this manner. We are certai it has not been used this way for several months.

As you know, Monsanto cut off sales to all applications except closed systems.

We think it is commendable that this company voluntarily discontinued use of PCB many months ago. PCB is a unique environmental issue in the sense that it is literally being solved by the voluntary actions of industry.

We believe those monitoring the problem will see further significant declines of PCB in the environment as a result of these actions to restrict its uses.

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