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February 22, 1972

Mr. John H. Rich
President
Garden State Paper Company, Inc.
950 River Drive
Garfield, New Jersey 07026

Dear Mr. Rich:

I was informed by Monsanto's Mr. Phil Slayton of your interest in the industrial chemicals known as polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB's).

With the increasing evidence that polychlorinated biphenyls were being identified in the environment and may be having some effect on some species of wildlife, about two years ago Monsanto began a program which we believe will reduce significantly the chances of PCB's escaping into the environment.

Because the PCB problem is complex the program of voluntary withdrawal was executed in a stepwise fashion with those applications in which control of escape was practically impossible being the first to be discontinued.

We have now reached that stage in which sales of PCB's are severely restricted to closed dielectric applications for which a commercially available fire-resistant alternative fluid is not available.

We have carried out an extremely detailed research program aimed at developing alternatives to PCB's and also modifying the PCB's to improve their degree of biodegradation in waste treatment facilities. Our aim here is not to develop PCB's which can be allowed to escape into the environment but rather to produce it so that, in case of accidental spillage, it will be capable of being contained and degraded in waste treatment facilities.