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Letters

OMC defended in PCB case

WE ARE really disappointed that The News-Sun has chosen not to present all sides of the controversy on OMC's PCB problem. It is sad that the culprit who is really to blame has yet to even be mentioned by you.

I am sure there are very few people who know the maker of Pydraul or that that company assured Johnson Outboard as late as February 1970 that the product was environmentally acceptable. They also refused to divulge the contents of the chemical, saying that was proprietary information.

It is true that OMC is responsible for putting the PCBs in the harbor, but in our opinion it is also true that the maker of the chemical is just as much at fault when they professed the environmental soundness of their product. We know that there was a 5-year period between the time Pydraul was last used and the discovery by the EPA that it contained PCBs by using a new method of testing.

If OMC is guilty through their own ignorance, then is the chemical company any less guilty? It is upsetting to see OMC staged as the "money hungry villain" when their products and processes of manufacturing have always been environmentally excellent.

At this time there are various sportsmens' groups who are boycotting OMC products because of this situation. It seems quite unfair that they should be allowed to pass judgement without knowing all of the facts.

We are frightened when we think of what would happen if OMC were to shut its doors. The magnitude of unemployment it would cause not only here, but around the country, is more than most people realize.

Not all of us have relatives who work for OMC, but we are still frightened for our future with the negative economic effect that would be caused if OMC were to shut its doors.

Please, in all fairness to OMC and everyone else, present the whole story and not bits and pieces.

MARY ANN CLARY
And four others

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