

Monsanto

OCT 15 1975

D. R. Bishop - BLND

October 14, 1975

J. E. McKee - C2SA

TO MESSRS. H. S. Bergen - B3SL
T. H. Bottini - B2CA
W. R. Corey - B2SA
K. W. Easley - 1920
F. J. Fitzgerald - B3SA
R. W. Flint - 1740
T. L. Gossage - B2SL
D. B. Hosmer - E1SF
W. B. Papageorge - B2SK
P. S. Park - E2NE
C. Paton - B2SC
S. Pickard - 1920
R. G. Potter - B3SA
R. A. Stohr - A3SB
J. L. Wikoff - B2SL
W. W. Withers - B2SA
D. Wood - B2SD

I've attached drafts of two letters, one to Jeffrey Tannenbaum who wrote the PCB article published in the October 10 issue of the WSJ, and the other letter to the Editor, WSJ.

I'm hoping the letter to the Editor will be published in a forthcoming issue.

The letter to Mr. Tannenbaum is, by necessity, more detailed and more strongly worded. I intend to send copies of this letter to appropriate people in the EPA as recommended by Mr. Easley.

I would appreciate your comments ASAP as these letters will quickly become dated.

Thank you.

Jan
D. R. Bishop

/cv

Attachments

THB
Letter to Easley
Letter to Editor

DRAFT/DRB/Oct. 14, 1975.

Letters to the Editor
The Wall Street Journal
22 Cortlandt Street
New York, New York 10007

Editor, The Wall Street Journal:

We wish to correct a misleading and false impression created in the article by Jeffrey A. Tannenbaum on "Persistent PCBs." (Oct. 8)

In discussing the chronological sequence of actions taken to reduce PCB pollution levels in the environment, Mr. Tannenbaum inferred that Monsanto Company, ~~the sole U.S. producer,~~ took no ~~action to control~~ PCBs until 1972 and then only "in the wake of a report by a federal government task force."

We can only assume that Mr. Tannenbaum was misled by inaccurate information contained in a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Environmental News Release, dated Oct. 8, 1975, which discusses the 1972 federal government report recommending a ban on all PCB uses except closed electrical systems and goes on to say that Monsanto agreed in 1972 to limit its PCB sales to only those applications.

The documented facts, as presented by Monsanto to Mr. Tannenbaum last August, clearly establish that Monsanto began its program of withdrawing, voluntarily and unilaterally, from "open system" markets in 1970 and that by December 31, 1971, (well in advance of the formation of the federal task force) ~~it had established a policy of~~ Monsanto ~~was~~ selling PCBs only to the electrical industry where they were (and still are) used as dielectric fluids in "closed systems" such as transformers and capacitors where there are no known, acceptable alternate fluids available.

We submit that, until now, Monsanto's voluntary and unilateral PCB program has always been regarded as highly responsible (if not, indeed, unprecedented) and suggest that, at the very least, it merits accurate treatment in the news media. We trust you will agree.

Sincerely yours,

D. R. Bishop
Director, Public Relations
Monsanto Industrial Chemical Co.