

L8
16

GENERAL ELECTRIC
GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY
FAIRFIELD, CONNECTICUT 06431

STERHEN B. HAMILTON, JR.
MANAGER - ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

November 24, 1986

(203) 373-3318

FEDERAL EXPRESS

Dr. Stephen H. Safe, Professor of Toxicology
Texas A&M University
Veterinary Physiology and Pharmacology
Highway 60
College Station, TX 77843-4466

Dear Dr. Safe:

Thank you for the papers on PCBs as dioxin antagonists. I find them extremely interesting and would like to see this work progress further to look at the carcinogenic response, and also look at the effectiveness of certain individual congeners.

Regarding our meeting on December 1, I will be accompanied by Dr. Joseph Rodericks of Environ, who has personal knowledge of the PCB regulatory process, and Dr. John F. Brown, Manager of GE's Health Research at our Corporate Research and Development Center. We will be arriving at the College Station Airport at 11:50 a.m. and departing at 4:45 p.m., same day.

I would like to start the meeting by summarizing the reasons why we think that a new approach to quantitating PCBs in fish, i.e., quantitation of specific toxic congeners rather than total PCBs is more scientifically sound than FDA's current approach.

I would then like to discuss with you the kind of toxicity testing that might make this a convincing argument to the Agency.

I would also like to discuss toxicity tests that would demonstrate the differences between the Aroclors that were released to the environment, and those largely dechlorinated mixtures found in the sediments of certain rivers. For your interest, I am enclosing a copy of chromatograms of Aroclor 1242 and of PCBs found in Hudson River sediments.

I trust we will also have time to discuss your dioxin "antagonist" work as well.

We should have a very interesting and productive meeting.

783741

Sincerely yours,

Sten Hamilton

SBH:cas
Enclosure
cc: Dr. J.F. Brown

GENP 010930

PCB Dechlorination in Hudson River Sediment

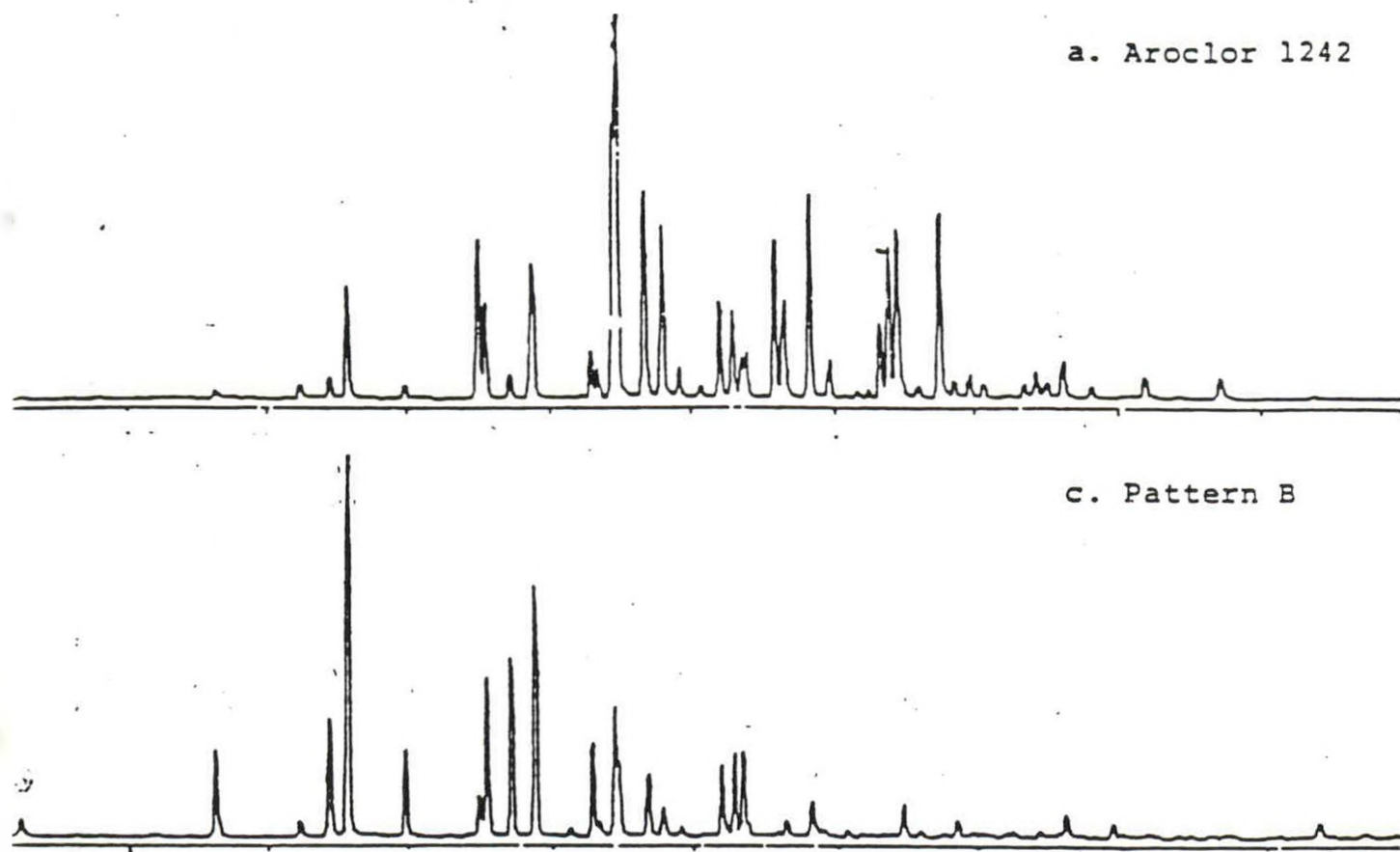


Figure 1. Capillary gas chromatograms of PCB specimens illustrating patterns most commonly seen in upper Hudson sediments: (a) Aroclor 1242 standard; (c) "Pattern B," dechlorinated Aroclor 1242: from Core 18-6, 16-17"

783742

GENP 010931