POULTRY: 3-PART PCB TESTING PROGRAM DISCONTINUED BY USDA IN 8-STATE AREA

The Department of Agriculture has discontinued its three-part testing program for polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in poultry produced in an eight-state area--Alabama, Delaware, Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia.

Testing was started last July after poultry feed was contaminated by an accident in a North Carolina fishmeal processing plant. While the three-part testing program has been discontinued in the eight states, and also earlier in Florida and Mississippi, USDA said its routine monitoring program for chlorinated hydrocarbons--including PCBs--will continue in all parts of the country.

USDA said the special three-part testing program was dropped in the eight states because of favorable results from an intensive investigation made by the Meat and Poultry Inspection Program.

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COAL RESEARCH: REPORT ON OPTIMIZATION OF GASIFICATION PROCESSES ISSUED BY OCR

The Interior Department's Office of Coal Research has published a report, "Optimization of Coal Gasification Processes," prepared under a continuing contract with West Virginia University.

This 900-page, two-volume report is designed to assist in developing processes for making pipeline-quality gas from coal through mathematical optimization techniques, along with a methodology of system analysis devised by the Chemical Engineering Department of the University.

Copies of the report can be inspected in Washington, D.C., at the Interior Department library, the Library of Congress, and the National Coal Association. A list of other libraries where the report can be inspected may be obtained from the Office of Coal Research, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C., 20240.

Individual copies may be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 20402, for $6.25 per set of two volumes. Orders should specify title and catalog number: Optimization of Coal Gasification Processes (OCR R&D Report No. 66 - Interim Report No. 1) GPO Catalog No. 163:10:66/INT 1. Checks should be made payable to the Superintendent of Documents or the Treasurer of the United States.

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NATURAL GAS: FPC STAFF REPRESENTATIVES NAMED TO NATIONAL SURVEY ADVISORY GROUPS

The Federal Power Commission has named seven FPC staff representatives to serve on five advisory committees and task forces to assist in the National Gas Survey, (NGS).

FPC also redesignated a Bureau of Mines staff member now serving on a task force as Deputy Director of that task force.

The seven FPC staff members were appointed as follows:

1. Dr. Richard F. Hill, assistant adviser on siting program, FPC Office of the Adviser on Environmental Quality, to the Transmission-Technical Advisory Task Force-Facilities.

2. Allen F. Crabtree, environmental assistant to the Adviser on Environmental Quality, to the Transmission-Technical Advisory Task Force-Operations.

3. Robert M. Jimeson, Assistant Adviser on Environmental Quality, to the Technical Advisory Committee-Supply.

4. James R ... or, industry economist, NGS, to Supply-Technical A... ory Task Force-Reformer Gas.

5. Frederick H. Warren, Adviser on Environmental Quality, to the Coordinating Committee

6. Dr. Jack M. Heinemann, chief environmental biologist, Office of the Adviser on Environmental Quality, to the Supply-Technical Advisory Task Force-Natural Gas Technology

7. Clement F. Linder, general engineer, National Gas Supply, to the Supply-Technical Advisory Task Force-Natural Gas Technology.

Charles H. Atkinson, a present member of the Supply-Technical Advisory Task Force-Natural Gas Technology, was designated task force deputy director of the same task force. Mr. Atkinson is project leader, Petroleum Engineering, Bureau of Mines, Bartlesville Energy Research Center, Department of the Interior.

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FPC: 5 LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS ON GAS, POWER MADE IN FISCAL 1971 REPORT TO CONGRESS

Five legislative recommendations relating to natural gas and electric power are outlined in the Federal Power Commission's annual report for fiscal year 1971. The report, summarizing FPC's regulatory activities in FY 1971, has been submitted to Congress.

The legislative recommendations would:

1. Permit FPC to collect, publish, and disseminate information on the natural gas industry as it now does under the Federal Power Act. FPC said this would increase its effectiveness in measuring gas supply and demand to help assure a reliable supply to meet consumer demands.

2. Enable FPC to determine when an emergency spot shortage of natural gas exists so as to require construction of temporary connections and extensions of facilities and delivery, interchange, transportation, load curtailment, and allocations of gas by any gas company, whether or not otherwise subject to its jurisdiction.

3. Give FPC a clear mandate of authority to issue temporary certificates under the Natural Gas Act in cases of emergency to assure maintenance of adequate gas service to existing customers, or to permit pipeline system expansion to provide urgently needed service.

4. Invest FPC with jurisdiction over issuance and sale of securities by gas pipeline companies subject to the Natural Gas Act. This would enable FPC to deny permission for financing that, in its opinion, would lead to deterioration in service and unnecessary higher costs.

5. Clarify FPC's authority to meet the Federal Power Act's mandate of assuring the adequacy of electric energy throughout the U.S. by empowering it to require construction of facilities and impose requirements for load relief and curtailment of service.

As FPC began its second half-century in fiscal 1971, it said its regulatory efforts were directed primarily toward alleviating increasingly urgent energy problems, particularly the persisting imbalance between natural gas supply and demand. The Commission said that for the third consecutive year, gas production exceeded new additions to supply. Domestic reserves, as reported by the pipeline companies in their Form 15 reports, declined to 173.6 trillion cubic feet in 1970, compared to 191.5 trillion in 1969.

A slowdown in gas industry growth was evidenced by announcements by some distributors and many major pipelines that no new customers were being accepted; by a smaller increase in residential gas use; and by a 52.3 percent drop in the total cost of gas pipeline facilities certificated during the fiscal year.

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