April 5, 1972

Dr. James W. Rote
Hopkins Marine Station
Pacific Grove, California 93950

Dear Dr. Rote:

Thank you for your letter of March 29, with the attached PCB reference list.

I, too, am concerned with the inferior work being performed by some investigators. It appears that the scientific community must learn to police itself, otherwise it will continue to be misunderstood and highly suspected by the general public.

I am also concerned that studies such as yours are being curtailed or delayed because of the lack of adequate funds. As you can imagine, Monsanto is intensely interested in all PCB research underway. It appears from our correspondence with scientists throughout the world that hundreds of laboratories in universities, governmental agencies and industry have studies underway relating to analytical techniques, presence or absence in the ecosystem and significance where positively identified.

Regarding significance, we know of many individuals investigating the biological effects on fish, mammals, microorganisms and birds, including effects on enzyme and hormone generation, as well as more general evidence of toxicity. As you can see, the total costs of all these studies are more than any one industry or government can support.

Monsanto has already committed several hundred thousand dollars for investigation of the many aspects of the overall problem

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particularly in areas which other investigators have not studied. I regret that at this time we do not feel we can support the project described in your letter.

I hope that you are able to find support soon and offer my best wishes for success.

Sincerely,

W. B. Papageorge
Manager
Environmental Protection

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