December 7, 1972

Dr. Clifford M. Hardin
Vice Chairman of Board
Ralston-Purina Company
Checkerboard Square
St. Louis, Missouri 63188

Dear Dr. Hardin:

Because of our mutual concern relating to the possibility of unintended presence of polychlorinated biphenyls in some industrial hydraulic fluids it appears appropriate that we review at this time the findings of our respective laboratories.

Attached is a table which summarizes the current information available to Monsanto. It is encouraging to note that, despite the sophisticated analytical procedures required and the slight differences in methodologies employed by the two laboratories, similar results have been obtained.

The results also indicate that Monsanto's reserve samples, Ralston-Purina's Sparks, Nevada sample and the sample from a sealed drum randomly selected from inventory in a public warehouse are all free of any polychlorinated biphenyls. On the other hand, the presence of polychlorinated biphenyls in samples from the other Ralston-Purina locations is disturbing.

We have reviewed our available records to determine the types of old formula Pydrauls delivered to Battle Creek, Michigan; Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania and Sparks, Nevada in the past. These records reveal that four drums of old formula Pydrauls were delivered to Sparks, Nevada in January, 1972 and returned unopened in June, 1972. Significantly, the sample of new Pydraul from this location has no detectable polychlorinated biphenyls. The polychlorinated polyphenyls identified in the Battle Creek, Michigan and Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania samples are the types associated with the previous Pydrauls used at these locations.

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After seriously reviewing this information it is our considered opinion that polychlorinated biphenyls detected in the samples analyzed were not contained in shipments of our new formulations but were introduced by some means of contamination, perhaps in the sampling or analytical processes. We wanted to relate our findings and opinion concerning them to you.

Sincerely,

W. B. Papageorge
Manager
Environmental Protection

WBP/bt

Attachment

cc: C. H. Sommer
C. P. Cunningham
W. R. Corey

bcc: J. F. Stapleton

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FLUID	MONSANTO LOT NUMBER	RALSTON-PURINA SAMPLE NUMBER	SAMPLE SOURCE	POLYCHLORINATED BIPHENYL (PCB) Content (ppm) (Aroclor Type) RALSTON-PURINA LABORATORY	MONSANTO LABORATORY
Pydraul 90E	QB-14720		Monsanto Reserve Sample	--	N.D.
			Ralston-Purina Cincinnati, Ohio	4.9, 10.01	---
Pydraul 90E	QB 13800	70000	Ralston-Purina Battle Creek, Mich.	52.5, 44.9 (A-1242) and (A-1254)	28*, 36 (A-1242) (A-5432, identified)
			Monsanto Reserve Sample	N.D.	N.D.
			Ralston-Purina, Davenport, Iowa	2.9, 5.0	---
			Sealed Drum Public Warehouse Chicago, Illinois	---	N.D.
Pydraul 230C	QB 13100		Monsanto Reserve Sample	N.D.	N.D.
			Ralston-Purina Sparks, Nev.	N.D.	---
Pydraul 230C	QB 10420		Monsanto Reserve Sample	N.D.	N.D.
		70006	Ralston-Purina Mechanicsburg, Penn.	868, 977, 1123 (A-1242)	1100*, 1800 (A-1242)

Notes: N.D. - Not Detected, less than 0.5 ppm PCB in sample

--- - Not Analyzed

* - Amount detected using Ralston-Purina analytical method

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