cc: L. Miller
E. Mullica
file PCB Disposal/Environment

Monsanto

FROM (NAME & LOCATION) H. H. Bible

DATE February 28, 1978

SUBJECT REMOVAL OF PCB's FROM THE ENVIRONMENT

REFERENCE

TO Messrs. ~~C. F. Callis~~
R. W. Duesenberg
L. Fernandez
F. J. Fitzgerald
R. J. Mahoney
M. C. Throdahl

Mr. J. W. Hanley

Attached, for your information, is a copy of a letter prepared jointly by Dr. Callis and Mr. Throdahl pertaining to Dr. Nolan's suggestion that Monsanto conduct research on removing PCB's from the environment. It is recommended that:

1) Monsanto contract with two research oriented institutions to generate ideas and make feasibility experiments on unconventional ideas of removing PCB's from the environment. Dr. Callis and Mr. Throdahl have suggested institutions such as MIT, Cal Tech, or Scripps Oceanographic Institute for the research work. This step in the program would be entirely funded by Monsanto and is expected to cost somewhere around $50,000.

2) If the research work indicated a practical means of removing PCB's from the environment, then more expensive development work would be required to prove out the proposed approach. At that time, we could make a decision as to whether or not we would want to ask other companies such as G.E., Westinghouse, etc. to join us in supporting this work.

Messrs. Mahoney and Fitzgerald fully support the above recommendation and Mr. Duesenberg can see no objection from a legal standpoint. Dr. Fernandez is "lukewarm" and feels it is extremely unlikely that this will generate any ideas that will be practical and, therefore, is of the opinion that we could well be wasting our money. However, he does recognize that, from a public relations standpoint, it would be helpful for Monsanto to make every reasonable effort to find a practical approach to cleaning up the PCB problem.

I have asked Dr. Callis and Mr. Throdahl to go ahead and contact those research oriented institutions which they think most capable of carrying out the desired program with the understanding that they would, at this time, only outline the situation and determine if the institutions are interested in undertaking the desired study. No commitment will be made until this subject is discussed further with you.

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H. H. Bible