

MITSUBISHI MONSANTO CHEMICAL COMPANY

FROM LOCATION : Tokyo

CC:

DATE : May 27, 1971

SUBJECT :

REFERENCE :

TO : Dr. J. R. Durland
Tokyo

The PCB pollution problem has been taken up with great emphasis as one of the environmental subjects in Japan since the end of last year and brought up by the National Diet for discussion. Such trends of public opinion have compelled the authorities concerned to take legislative steps for preventing alleged PCB pollution and paper manufacturers had to immediately stop using PCB for carbon-less carbon paper production, which has lead to gloomy effect on its electrical and heat transfer uses.

Under these circumstances, in spite of the excellent properties of PCB, condenser manufacturers in Japan are giving serious consideration to a possibility of a switch-over from PCB to something else.

MMK has been pushing on the sale of PCB to leading condenser makers in competition with Kaneka, the forerunner in this area, but we have not yet established a strong position in the market as Kaneka has. It is, however, very likely that if MMK could supply pollution-free oil to the market, we should have an advantage over Kaneka in this field.

From this point of view, we are very interested in such MC's products as MCS-1018, MCS-1043, etc. Mr. Papageorge provided us on March 29, 1971 with information and data on the above products with respect to toxicity, biological build-up and degradation which enabled us to understand their superiority, relatively speaking, to conventional PCB. We are afraid, however, that the information and data received are not strong and satisfactory enough for us to convince the government and general public that these products are pollution-free in view of the anti-pollution measures becoming stricter.

MONS 099889

It would be greatly appreciated, if MC would provide us with strong recommendation of MCS-1016, MCS-1043, etc. and convince us of a vigorous switch-over to such products.

The attached write-up is intended for your information and for your further assistance in arranging for us to get more information from MC.

Thank you.



S. Uneno

YO:ri

i) Semi-Continuous Activated Sludge Tests

The Report says(at Page 6 in Job No.13480) that MCS-1016 showed evidence of biodegradation with no significance level of 95%.

(There seems to be no difference between MCS-1016 and A-1242 in biodegradation.)

ii) Degradability by biphenyl active culture

MCS-1016 looks better than A-1242(at Page 4)

(We have asked MC for detailed comparative data.)

iii) River Die-Away Exposures

The Report says(at Page 5) that A-1242 did not disappear at a measurable rate.

Table III(Page 5) shows considerable natural bacterial degradation for A-1221.

(The data for MCS-1016 was not available in these tests.)

"The RDA disappearance rate of MCS-1016 should fall somewhere between those observed for A-1221 and A-1242."

(We have requested detailed data on the above.)

iv) PCB Residues in Rats Fed

The Report(Page 6) does not include data on MCS-1016. In the case of A-1242 test, it seems that degradation of low chlorinated biphenyls was shown.

(We have requested detailed data on MCS-1016.)

v) The Report says(Page 2) that "the reason for this lies in the fact that PCB's containing 5 - 8 chlorine atoms are the most refractory toward degradation -----."

(MMK cannot confirm this fact, so we have asked for supply of data on the basis for such concept.)

vi) According to PCB Environmental Problem March Status Report, MCS-1043 is considered to be better than MCS-1016. Therefore, we have asked for detailed information on this.