Monsanto

PCB fabrication EPA

FROM (NAME & LOCATION) W. B. Papageorge B2SK

DATE August 7, 1975

SUBJECT PCBs - EPA

REFERENCE

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Thomas Kopp, Office of Toxic Substances, EPA, called to inform me of the following:

1) EPA is conducting a meeting on August 8 with representatives of other federal agencies and departments to emphasize the need for proper handling of PCBs in government installations and to recommend that the ANSI C-107 guidelines be followed. Also, government specifications will be modified to include reference to absence of PCBs in items (other than capacitors and transformers) purchased by the federal government.

2) On August 11 a meeting of EPA representatives will be held to review the current PCB situation. The meeting will cover both technical and legal considerations, including the probable existence of a "black market" in used PCBs, ERDA-NBS transformer fluid study, and the use of alternative fluids in small capacitors. An attempt will be made to get information from all industry suspected of discharging PCBs by using Section 308 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (PL 92-500). If industry does not respond, EPA will resort to other legal means to get the information.

3) On August 12 the Federal Interdepartmental Task Force on PCBs will be reassembled at EPA's call to review PCBs. EPA will attempt to get support from other agencies in controlling losses of PCBs to the environment.

4) Russell Train, Administrator, EPA, still plans to issue a press release between August 15 and August 22. No decision has been made regarding issuing this release with or without a press conference.

5) There is no intent on EPA's part to "tar and feather" Monsanto.

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6) Doris Ruopp and Vincent DeCarlo, Office of Toxic Substances, EPA, will present a paper entitled "Environmental Levels of PCBs" at a WHO/EPA/ACS meeting in September. Copies are not yet available. Kopp indicated that the data gathered thus far does not indicate a drop in PCB levels in the U. S. environment. In some instances levels appear to be increasing.

W. B. Papageorge

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