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Elmer P. Wheeler, Medical Department

February 23, 1970

Meeting Concerning PCB's--
National Water Quality Lab,
FWPCA, Duluth, Minnesota

W. B. Papageorge
WPAPA

H. S. Bergen, MBERG
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P. S. Park, PPARK
W. R. Richard, WRICH
J. J. Spano, JSPAN
J. E. Springgate, JSPRI
E. S. Tucker, S. Second St.

Attached is a memo Jack received from the author, Donald Mount, inviting him to attend a meeting in Duluth on Tuesday, March 17 to discuss in detail the following items:

1. The volume of PCB's produced in the United States.
2. The types of products in which these PCB's occur.
3. The persistence and longevity of various types of PCB's.
4. Existing levels of PCB's in water and biological material.
5. The types of PCB's that are most toxic.
6. Suggestions for research to evaluate the importance of PCB's in terms of damage to the aquatic environment.

This is the meeting that John Birdsall told me about and which we will want to discuss with John when he is here on Thursday, March 4.

In the meantime I think we should decide who from Monsanto is going to attend the meeting in Duluth on March 17.

Elmer P. Wheeler

EPW:ju

Enclosure

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

National Water Quality Laboratory
6201 Congdon Boulevard
Duluth, Minnesota 55804

TO : Addressees Listed Below DATE: Feb. 19, 1970

FROM : Director, NWQL

SUBJECT: Meeting Concerning PCB's

There is increasing concern among many individuals about the importance of PCB's in the environment, what the major sources might be, and what methods of control ought to be initiated, if any, in order to avoid the development of a major problem. The recognition of these materials in biological samples is occurring with increasing regularity and more and more questions are being raised as to the importance of these residues, both from the standpoint of human consumption as well as effect on the aquatic environment.

Because this laboratory is likely to be intimately involved in ecological evaluation work, I am taking the liberty of serving as a coordinator to arrange a meeting of interested persons to talk about several pertinent questions in regard to these materials. I would like to invite you to a meeting at the National Water Quality Laboratory, 6201 Congdon Boulevard, Duluth, Minnesota on Tuesday, March 17, 1970, beginning at 9:00 a.m. to discuss the following items.

1. The volume of PCB's produced in the United States.
2. The types of products in which these PCB's occur.
3. The persistence and longevity of various types of PCB's.
4. Existing levels of PCB's in water and biological material.
5. The types of PCB's that are most toxic.
6. Suggestions for research to evaluate the importance of PCB's in terms of damage to the aquatic environment.

I would not expect more than a few decisions to be made at this meeting, but it can serve as a useful place to exchange information, assemble our current knowledge in regard to



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the PCB situation, and to offer suggestions as to needed research that should be completed in order to better understand the problem.

My secretary will make reservations for any who need assistance. We invite you to stay longer at the laboratory and visit with our staff, but for those of you who are pressed for time we will complete our meeting early enough so that you can get the five o'clock flight to Chicago from the Duluth International Airport. The Hotel Duluth is quite an acceptable place to stay and there is a Holiday Inn just two or three blocks from the hotel. Both are served by limousine service from the airport.

I would appreciate hearing from you within the next week as to whether or not you will be able to attend this meeting, and if the date is a poor choice, we will try to schedule another one.

Don

Donald I. Mount, Ph.D.

Addressees:

Dr. John Birdsall, WARF Inst., Madison, WI
Mr. John Carr, Bur. Com. Fisheries, Ann Arbor, MI
Mr. Wm. Donaldson, Southeast Water Lab., FWPCA
Dr. Eugene Dustman, Laurel, MD
Dr. A. F. Forziati, Div. Physical Sciences, FWPCA
Mr. Jack Garrett, Monsanto Co., St. Louis, MO
Mr. Victor Lambou, Div. Tech. Support, FWPCA
Dr. G. Fred Lee, Univ. of Wisconsin, Madison
Dr. J. C. MacLeod, Fisheries Research Board of Canada - Winnipeg
Mr. Ralph Purdy, Dept. Natural Resources, Michigan
Dr. Richard Schoettger, Fish. Pest. Res. Lab., Columbia, MO
Dr. John Sprague, Fisheries Research Board of Canada - St. Andrews