July 18, 1975

Mr. Richard J. Himics
RCA Laboratories
Route 1
Princeton, New Jersey 08540

Dear Mr. Himics:

Confirming our recent telephone conversation, it is my considered opinion that if good housekeeping and modern industrial hygiene practices are followed, the presence of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in the fluids present in capacitors should not pose an employee exposure problem.

In the event an employee experiences skin exposure, a normal soap and water wash should suffice. I would not expect anyone to experience skin exposure frequently. Repeated exposures will result in a reddening of the skin, indicating a removal of the natural oils, and further exposure would probably result in chloracne, a skin condition commonly associated with undue exposure to chlorinated hydrocarbons.

Clothing contaminated with the liquid should be laundered before reuse. Any solid material such as rags and oil absorbents should be carefully collected and buried in an authorized landfill.

Further information relating to the proper handling of these materials may be found in the bulletins I have enclosed. I hope you find this information helpful. If I can be of further service please let me know.

Sincerely,

W. B. Papageorge
Manager, Product Acceptability
Specialty & Process Chemicals

WBP:pd

BB
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