

PX 1346

~~10/1/79~~

from the desk of
M. A. PIERLE

P. E. Heisler - 1740
W. B. Papageorge - G4WA
P. S. Park - E2NE

Please review the attached
draft and submit comments.

K012310

Mike Pierle
5/9/79

No comments PMS

*5/15
CALLED MIKE'S
GAL AND
TOLD HER
OK P*

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C13141

ROUGH DRAFT
5/9/79

LETTER TO Mr. Ken Buercklin, FDA

*PLEASE ADD TO
DOXINK FILE*

On April 3 you hand-carried a memorandum to Mr. Charles P. Farley requesting certain information regarding Monsanto Company's chemical operations at Sauget, Illinois. During these discussions you requested Monsanto to determine if it had any information concerning the presence of dioxins in Monsanto's landfill or its effluent to the Sauget waste treatment facility.

This memo will confirm my conversation with you on April 18 and will reflect in total the efforts Monsanto has undertaken to determine if any information requested is available.

Monsanto personnel have thoroughly search files to determine if we had any knowledge concerning the presence of dioxins within either the Monsanto landfill or the plant's wastewater discharges to the Sauget Village waste treatment plant. Having concluded this effort, we find that there are no data available. As I explained to you during our conversation on April 18, Monsanto has not had reason in the past to look specifically for dioxins at these locations. Furthermore, we understand that the analytical procedures necessary to develop this information have not been generally available. Analysis specific for the 2,3,7,8-TCDD isomer require the use of small amounts of this material to standardize the analytical instruments. The potential for exposure during handling by laboratory analysts has precluded such determinations both at Monsanto facilities and, as we understand it, also at EPA analytical contractor facilities. In addition to investigating possible Monsanto sources of information, we also surveyed the Environmental Protection Agency data base information systems to determine if non-Monsanto information existed. No data were available from this source.

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In summary, in examining the information sources that are readily available to Monsanto, we have not found any information on the presence or absence of dioxins associated with the landfill and wastewater discharges at Monsanto's facility in Sauget.

We hope that this information is useful to you in responding to others within FDA.

Sincerely,

M.A. Pierle

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K012312