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Road Oil May Harm Water

ROCHESTER, Minn. (AP) — The application on dirt roads of an oil, once used in electrical transformers, could be the source of the Polychlorinated Biphenol (PCB) pollution found recently in several southeastern Minnesota bodies of water. A Pollution Control Agency (PCA) quality specialist, Joel Schilling, said Thursday the reuse of such oil on roads, or as a fuel, could account for the intermittent levels of PCB detected in the Zumbro, Cannon and Whitewater Rivers. PCB is sometimes used in certain types of electrical transformers. And, used transformer oil is frequently collected along with used crankcase oil for blacktopping, use on roads and a fuel.

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