STATE OF CALIFORNIA—RESOURCES AGENCY RONALD REAGAN, Governor

SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
364 FOURTEENTH STREET
OAKLAND 94612

March 7, 1969

In reply please refer to
File No. 2119-1075

Monsanto Company
800 N. Lindbergh
St. Louis, Missouri 63166

Attention Mr. Howard S. Burgen, Business Director
Functional Fluids Organic Chemicals Division

Subject: Polychlorinated biphenyls ("PCB's")

Gentlemen:

Confirming recent telephone discussions between your Mr. Burgen and Hobart C. Knapp of this office, we request the following information about your polychlorinated biphenyls:

1. Data from fish bioassays which you are now performing; please include 96-hour TL_m and the data pages recording laboratory observations.

2. Existing data on toxicity, including long-term effects.

3. Maximum allowable concentrations in industrial work areas.

4. Solubility in water.

5. Industrial applications by specific Monsanto product item number, and physical nature of these items; please include:

   a. Dielectric fluids
   b. Plasticizers for paints, plastics, elastomers, etc., and the uses of products containing "PCB", e.g. tire stocks, floor tile. Please inform about the diffusion or other escape of "PCB" from such products, both in normal use and in the environment of refuse dumps.
   c. Hydraulic fluid for aircraft, industrial equipment, etc.
   d. Heat transfer applications.
   e. Other.

6. Current volume of sales of "PCB" in the San Francisco Bay Area and in California for each of the above applications and extent to which this is to replace spent "PCB". (We understand current inventory turnover at your Santa Clara warehouse is around 40,000 lbs per month, but we have been able to account for only two bbl. per year in purchases.) Please name Bay Area users of "PCB" for these applications.

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7. Monsanto's advice to its customers for handling "PCB" in normal use, and for its disposal when discarded, e.g., of filtration residues from processing dielectric fluids, discarding the fluids when they must be replaced in dielectric, hydraulic, or heat transfer service, disposal methods for emptied containers, spills, etc..

In view of the recent allegations in the technical press about the serious detrimental effects of "PCB" on fish and wildlife, we are most anxious to receive this information soon. Your cooperation in this matter will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

FRED H. DIERKER
Executive Officer

HCK,FHD/emj

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