

ROUTE SLIP

Date 3/20/78

MONSANTO COMPANY, St. Louis

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8 THE WALL STREET JOURNAL
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U.S. Charges Outboard With PCB Discharges Into Lake Michigan

By a WALL STREET JOURNAL Staff Reporter

CHICAGO—The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency filed suit in federal court here charging Outboard Marine Corp. with discharging two million pounds of a toxic chemical into a Lake Michigan harbor over a period of 15 years.

The Waukegan-based maker of outboard motors was charged with violating various federal pollution laws by discharging polychlorinated biphenyls from its Johnson outboard facility, located near the Waukegan harbor.

The suit asks that the company be ordered to remove the PCB sediments from the harbor and pay a penalty of up to \$20,000 a day for each day the chemical was discharged from the facility. The maximum penalty is about \$20 million.

Outboard Marine filed suit here several weeks ago asking that the U.S. and Illinois environmental agencies decide how the company should clear the PCB from the harbor. The company replaced a system of pipes contaminated by the chemical, used in a hydraulic fluid, in 1976, and said it doesn't use PCB any longer.

Referring to the earlier suit, Outboard Marine's corporate attorney, Hugh Thomas, said the EPA action "can only delay and confuse" the settling of the issue.

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