

GENERAL ELECTRIC

TECHNICAL RESOURCES

GENERAL ELECTRIC COMPANY, 1 RIVER ROAD, SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK 12305
Phone (518) 374-2211

Pyramel
May 22, 1972

Mr. A. L. McLane
Purchasing Department
NABISCO, INC.
425 Park Avenue
New York, N. Y. 10022

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EDWARD L. DOBBINS

Dear Mr. McLane:

Replying further to your inquiry of April 28 relative to PCB, to the best of our knowledge the General Electric equipment in your factory containing PCB's is limited to certain classes of transformers and capacitors.

To meet the fire requirements of electrical codes and underwriters, the dielectric fluid of transformers installed in or near occupied premises contains PCB. There is no substitute. One possible alternative would be to replace the transformer with a mineral-oil type, in which case the transformer would be required to be placed in a fire-proof vault or installed outdoors.

PCB-containing capacitors are widely used in the motor circuits of air-conditioners and as accessories to other small "split phase" motors; as power-factor correcting equipment in substations; as a component of the ballast in fluorescent lighting installations; and as filters or electrical wave-shape modifiers in electronic control panels, rectifiers, inverters, and the like. An example of such an application is the vibration control unit of your weigher made by the Pneumatic Scale Company, which has been the subject of discussion between your people and our offices in New York and Hudson Falls.

It has been estimated that 90% of industrial and electrical-power capacitors contain PCB. While functional replacements theoretically could be manufactured, they would be too large to fit in existing equipment in many applications, and would somewhat increase fire hazards.

Fortunately, both transformers and capacitors are sealed, so that in normal service there is no evolution of PCB. Failures severe enough to cause leakage are extremely rare and generally cannot occur without disruption of electrical function, which event would signal the need for clean-up and repair.

The special status of transformers and capacitors is recognized in a government report released just this week, Polychlorinated Biphenyls and the Environment -- Interdepartmental Task Force on PCB's, May 1972. One of the findings of this report (sponsored by the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce,

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- 2 -

May 22, 1972

Health, Education and Welfare, and Interior; and Environmental Protection Agency; plus other participating agencies) is, in part:

"6. The use of PCB's should not be banned entirely. Their continued use for transformers and capacitors in the near future is considered necessary because of the significantly increased risk of fire and explosion and the disruption of electrical service which would result from a ban on PCB use. Also, continued use of PCB's in transformers and capacitors presents a minimal risk of environmental contamination."

From our reading of the proposed FDA rule making, it does not appear to be the intent to outlaw either capacitors or transformers when applied in accordance with the manufacturer's ratings and installed separately from that equipment which is in direct contact with the food, feed, or food-packaging material being processed. We have written to the Hearing Clerk of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare with the suggestion that the exemption of capacitors and transformers so applied be made explicit in the final version of the proposed rules. A copy of our letter is enclosed.

Please let us know if you require additional information.

Very truly yours,

**James S. Nelson, Consultant-
Product Environmental Compatibility**

JSN:ev
Enclosures

bcc: S. C. Van Voorhis - NEW YORK
J. F. McAllister - NEW YORK
E. L. Raab - PITTSFIELD
A. Pozafsky - HUDSON FALLS
W. F. Powell - DANVILLE
E. L. Dobbins - PITTSFIELD

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Proposed Rule Making

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Wage and Hour Division

[29 CFR Parts 520, 570]

WORK EXPERIENCE AND CAREER EXPLORATION PROGRAMS

Proposed Extension of Programs in States Where Such Programs Have Been Approved

Notice is hereby given that the Wage and Hour Division is considering the limited extension of the work experience and career exploration programs, now scheduled to terminate August 31, 1972, for another year in those States now having such programs in operation. Evaluation of the 1971-72 school year programs will not be completed until December 1972, or later; and where such programs have been set up and funded. It is desirable that such programs be continued. Before the end of the 1972-73 school year our evaluation will be complete and the Department will then be in a position to determine whether and the extent to which modification of certain provisions of the child labor standards applicable to the employment of minors in such programs would be appropriate. It is also proposed to extend the authority to issue subminimum wage certificates in connection with such programs if the programs are extended.

Interested persons are invited to submit written comments, suggestions, or arguments regarding the proposed revision to the undersigned within 30 days after publication of this notice in the *Federal Register*.

It is accordingly proposed to amend Title 29 of the Code of Federal Regulations as follows:

1. Paragraph (b) of § 520.12 is proposed to be revised to read as follows:

§ 520.12 Work experience and career exploration programs.

(b) This section shall terminate and have no force and effect after August 31, 1973.

2. Paragraph (e) of § 570.35a is proposed to be revised to read as follows:

§ 570.35a Work experience and career exploration programs.

(e) This section shall terminate and have no force and effect after August 31, 1973, except that States operating approved work experience and career exploration programs may continue to operate programs in their States until August 31, 1973.

Signed at Washington, D.C., this 9th day of May 1972.

HORACE E. MENASCO,
Deputy Assistant Secretary for
Employment Standards and
Administrator of the Wage
and Hour Division.

[FR Doc. 72-2410 Filed 5-17-72; 9:42 am]

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

Food and Drug Administration

[21 CFR Parts 3, 121, 122, 128]

POLYCHLORINATED BIPHENYLS

Extension of Time for Filing Comments

The proposed regulations regarding polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB's) in animal feed, food, and food-packaging materials (21 CFR Parts 3, 121, 122, 128), published in the *Federal Register* of March 18, 1972 (37 F.R. 5705), provided for the filing of comments thereon within 60 days after date of publication.

The Commissioner of Food and Drugs has received requests for an extension of such time and, good reason therefor appearing, the time for filing comments on the subject proposal is extended to July 16, 1972.

This action is taken pursuant to provisions of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (secs. 402(a), 406, 409, 701, 52 Stat. 1046 as amended, 1049, 1055-56 as amended by 70 Stat. 919 and 72 Stat. 948, 72 Stat. 1785-88 as amended; 21 U.S.C. 342(a), 346, 348, 371) and under authority delegated to the Commissioner (21 CFR 2.120).

Dated: May 11, 1972.

SAM D. FINE,
Associate Commissioner
for Compliance.

[FR Doc. 72-1509 Filed 5-17-72; 9:42 am]

Social and Rehabilitation Service

[45 CFR Parts 233, 248]

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Determination of Disability

Notice is hereby given that the regulations set forth in tentative form below are proposed by the Administrator, Social and Rehabilitation Service, with the approval of the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare. The proposed regulations would amend current policies pertaining to the program of Aid to the Permanently and Totally Disabled au-

thorized under titles XIV and XVI and the program of Medical Assistance authorized under title XIX of the Social Security Act to:

1. Extend Federal matching to cases where States measure disability solely against the individual's capacity to engage in paid employment or self-employment, without considering also the individual's capacity to keep house and care for others;

2. Permit the use, on the State review team, of persons of other disciplines, instead of or in addition to a social worker;

3. Allow for the use of other appropriate documents in lieu of a current medical report;

4. Provide that States with definitions of disability not narrower than the definition under title II of the Social Security Act may accept, as evidence of disability, a certification of current eligibility for disability benefits under title II;

5. Provide that States may contract to have disability determined by the State vocational rehabilitation agency, or by another agency that makes disability determinations under title II of the Act.

Prior to the adoption of the proposed regulations, consideration will be given to any comments, suggestions, or objections thereto which are submitted in writing to the Administrator, Social and Rehabilitation Service, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, 330 Independence Avenue SW., Washington, DC 20201, within a period of 30 days from date of publication of this notice in the *Federal Register*. Comments received will be available for public inspection in Room 5121 of the Department's offices at 301 C Street SW., Washington, DC, on Monday through Friday of each week from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (202-663-7381).

The provisions of these sections are to be issued under section 1102, 49 Stat. 647, 42 U.S.C. 1302.

Dated: April 25, 1972.

JOHN D. TWINAME,
Administrator, Social and
Rehabilitation Service.

Approved: May 10, 1972.

ELLIOT L. RICHARDSON,
Secretary.

1. Section 233.80 of Part 233 of Chapter II of Title 45 of the Code of Federal Regulations is revised to read as set forth below:

§ 233.80 Disability.

(a) State plan requirements and options. (1) A State plan under title XIV or XVI of the Social Security Act must:

(i) Contain a definition of permanently and totally disabled, showing that