Lake Michigan Toxic Substances Committee
May 22, 1975

Conclusions

A. The effect level of PCB's in primates reproduction is recently documented as less than 2.5 ppm and is much lower than has been observed in standard test mammals (rats).

B. As a result of recent court decisions the FDA is now enforcing the 5 ppm residue maximum in fish intended for human consumption and is likely to review the 5 ppm maximum allowable based on recent primate toxicological evidence. In what is he referring to?

C. The concentrations of PCB's in Lake Michigan fish are probably not decreasing and Salmonids, particularly larger specimens, currently achieved the 5 ppm maximum allowable level.

D. Reported efforts by the manufacturer to restrict distribution and efforts by the agencies to restrict discharges have not resulted in PCB reductions in the lake.

E. It is probable that wastewater sources of PCB's to Lake Michigan are ubiquitous and at or below detectable levels.

F. An economic loss has already resulted to the commercial fishery as a result of PCB contamination. A much larger economic loss to the commercial and sport fishing industry is imminent in light of current FDA food recommendations and enforcement actions.

G. Non-wastewater PCB's are probably still reaching the environment from incineration, land disposal, and careless dumping.

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H. The presence of PCB's in many processes and many products, continues to be widespread in spite of Monsanto Chemical Company policy to restrict sale for closed systems.

I. For many if not for all uses, PCB's can be eliminated or replaced by alternative chemicals.

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