January 26, 1970

Mr. C. L. Gough
Industrial Waste Section
Indiana State Department of Health
1330 W. Michigan Street
Indiannapolis, Indiana 46206

Dear Mr. Gough:

I have asked Mr. Bryant to send you what bulletins we have available on Askerel and Inerteen. As I told you by phone, some of these bulletins are being re-written or are out of print at this time.

In general the PCB's (polychlorinated biphenyls) are not extremely toxic to mammals. Our data puts them in the slightly toxic range from both oral ingestion and absorption through the skin. We have always insisted that our customers handle them with care particularly when they are processed at elevated temperatures. Since these products are chlorinated hydrocarbons, they can cause liver and kidney injury with sufficient exposure. We have never experienced this difficulty in our production plants or with customers.

These products contain PCB's and these materials can cause damage to certain wildlife species. We have work going on at the present time to determine the extent of this problem. We are recommending to our customers that they take extreme care when handling PCB containing products where there is a chance that these products can get into their receiving streams. Since the PCB's are heavier than water, they are quite easy to collect in a gravity type sump collector. The product can then be removed from the sump and be reclaimed if possible or be disposed of in an approved fashion. We have recommended incinerators equipped with scrubbers as an appropriate method of disposal.

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If I can provide you with any further information concerning these very valuable products, I will be glad to do so.

Sincerely,

Jack T. Garrett
Manager, Industrial Hygiene

JTG:ju

c.c. J. G. Bryant

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