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February 24, 1971

Mr. W.B. Papageorge
Manager, Environmental Control
Monsanto Company
Organic Chemicals Division
800 N. Lindbergh Boulevard
St. Louis, Missouri 63166

Dear Mr. Papageorge:

Thank you for the time and effort that you and Dr. Wheeler took to visit with Ian Nisbitt and me on February 8. Thank you also for the technical bulletins and data that you left with us, and for the copies of the analytical methodology used by the Monsanto laboratories for the determination of polychlorinated biphenyls. I am impressed by the efforts that Monsanto has taken to ensure the safe use of these products. One area of major uncertainty that I would like to discuss with you further, at a later date, is that of routes of PCB's into the environment, the extent of losses, and the projected reduction in losses as a consequence of Monsanto's efforts to curtail certain uses and to recycle waste materials to its disposal facility.

The overall goal of the OST Panel on Hazardous Trace Substances, as I mentioned in our discussion, is to design and test an instrument for providing scientific information on biological effects, environmental effects, natural background distribution, and man-imposed perturbations on the distribution of hazardous substances. The Panel is approaching the problem by the preparation of case studies on cadmium, arsenic, and polychlorinated biphenyls. At the February 15th meeting, it was felt that these studies would probably be published ultimately. I hope that we can work closely with Monsanto on preparing a critical review of the publications on the polychlorinated biphenyls, and in preparing an accurate assessment of the implications of the available information and the need for additional studies, if any.

Sincerely yours,

Adel F. Sarofim

Adel F. Sarofim
Associate Professor of
Chemical Engineering

AFS:ll
cc: Dr. I. Nisbitt

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