

ELKHART, IND.
TRUTH
D. 27,000

OCT 6 1976

Monsanto Cited for Phasing Out Harmful PCB

ST. LOUIS (UPI) — The Monsanto Co. says by Oct. 31, 1977, it will stop production of polychlorinated biphenyl, a chemical used as an electric insulator, because of possible hazardous effects on humans.

The company said Tuesday the phasing out of production during the next year will give time for manufacturers to find substitute materials for PCB. Substitutes developed by the electrical industry are being tested, although they may not prove as effective in resisting fire as PCB.

The Environmental Protection Agency, which has called

PCB a "significant hazard to human health and the environment," praised Monsanto's announcement Tuesday.

"The Monsanto decision is a significant step in dealing with the total problem of PCB contamination," said EPA Administrator Russell E. Train.

"Environmental contamination will continue to be a problem due to the millions of PCBs already in landfills, soils, river and lake sediments, in our air and water and in wildlife and human tissue. This contamination will be there for years — moving into life systems, including humans."

Traces of PCB have been found in every major waterway in the country.

Monsanto announced in January it would eventually stop production of PCB but at the time it set no timetable. PCBs have been used since about 1890 as fire-resistant fluids and electric insulation in capacitors and transformers.

Monsanto once made as much as 85 million pounds of PCB a year, but its production has dropped to about 27,000 pounds in recent years as fears about environmental damage mounted.

Long Island Press
JAMAICA, N. Y.

D. 292,383 SUN. 292,270

OCT 6 1976

Monsanto verdict—death for PCBs

ST. LOUIS (UPI) — Monsanto Co., the nation's leading supplier of polychlorinated biphenyl, used as an electric insulator, said yesterday it would

stop production of the chemical by Oct. 31, 1977, because of possible hazardous effects on humans.

MONS 050589