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Firm will ban toxics

ST. LOUIS (UPI)—Monsanto Co. has headed off environmentalists' efforts to ban a group of toxic chemicals known as PCBS by announcing it will phase out production of them.

Environmental groups had petitioned the federal government to lower the permissible levels of PCBS in food on grounds the chemicals are a cancer hazard.

Federal officials have said PCBS had been responsible for liver cancer and reproductive failures in laboratory animals and some workers using the chemicals have complained of allergic reactions.

Austin Bureau of The News

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