

Monsanto

OCT 31 1991

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FROM

(NAME-LOCATION-PHONE) Kevin S. Cahill - G4WD 4-3410

DATE: October 30, 1991

cc: L. J. O'Neill - G4WA
L. W. Wassell - G4WF

SUBJ: **Transfers to POTW's
Media Coverage**

REF:

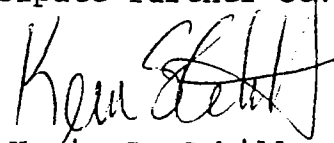
TO: D. G. Bartolanzo - A2SP
G. F. Fort - G4WT
T. H. Lafferre - G4NJ
V. T. Matteucci - G5NR
C. F. Navarrete - G5NA
R. G. Potter - G4NH
D. B. Price, Jr. - G5NV
D. L. Sliney - G4NJ
M. W. Winkel - G5NA

Attached please find transcripts from local television coverage and articles which appeared in the Post-Dispatch regarding a press conference on TRI data involving discharges to POTWs. The Krummrich and Queeny plants were cited as being in the top ten of dischargers to POTWs.

Stories aired on Channel 2, 4, and 5, and articles appeared in the Post-Dispatch and the Belleville News-Democrat. We also responded to several papers outside of the St. Louis area including Columbia, MO and Rockford, IL.

MCC's 70% reduction program was mentioned in the Channel 4 report, and none of the reports were significantly biased toward the USPIRG position.

We do not anticipate further coverage on this issue.


Kevin S. Cahill

DSW 136175

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BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICES, INC.
NEW YORK PHILADELPHIA ST. LOUIS DENVER

7838 Big Bend Boulevard, St. Louis, Missouri 63119
(314) 981-4113

CLIENT: Monsanto Company

STATION: KSDK Ch. 5

PROGRAM: NewsChannel 5

TIME: 6:00 P.M.

DATE: 10/28/91

CITY: St. Louis

RICK EDLUND: "Is St. Louis' sewer system overloaded with toxic chemicals? According to a new study the metro area leads the nation in sewer pollution."

DEANNE LANE: "A report released today puts St. Louis, St. Louis County and St. Clair County in Illinois in the top ten in chemical releases."

EDLUND: "NewsChannel 5's Jeff Fowler joins us now with the details."

JEFF FOWLER: "St. Louis County led the nation with over 53 million pounds of chemicals going into its public sewer system but officials say it is not a health threat."

"At a news conference in Washington this morning the U.S. Public Information Research Group released the results of the nationwide study."

TOM REGAN (Missouri, PIRG): "St. Louis county and city is by far the worst in the nation when it comes to companies dumping raw poison right into the sewer system."

FOWLER: "Of the more than 53 million pounds of chemicals released in St. Louis County, most of it, 52 million pounds of ammonium sulfate came from this one company, Columbian Chemicals of South County."

"But sewer district officials say it is not an environmental threat."

BERNARD RAINS (MSD): "It is not causing any interference with our treatment process and it's not passing through our treatment facility causing any toxicity problem in the Mississippi River."

FOWLER: "All chemical discharges are treated so that they meet state standards and ammonium sulfate is not considered to be extremely toxic."

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KSQK Ch. 5 10/28/91 6:00 P.M.

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"But according to the report many of the chemicals being released are very toxic, some are known carcinogens. But MSD officials say they are not being released in quantities that would harm the public's health.

"The report says four of the top ten toxic dischargers to sewers come from the St. Louis area. In addition to Columbian Chemicals, Monsanto's Sauget plant is number four on the list, Mallinckrodt with 9.6 million pounds is number eight and Monsanto's St. Louis plant is number nine.

"Monsanto says it is actively reducing the amount of chemicals it is releasing but U.S. PIRG officials say most companies aren't acting fast enough."

ROB STUART (U.S. PIRG): "In the long term the only way we're going to truly reduce the risk associated with toxic chemicals is to reduce their use."

FOWLER: "Now Columbian Chemicals is headquartered in Atlanta, officials there say there is no public exposure to what they release and therefore they say no health threat."

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7838 Big Bend Boulevard, St. Louis, Missouri 63119
 (314) 961-4113

CLIENT: Metropolitan Sewer District

STATION: KMOV Ch. 4

PROGRAM: News 4 St. Louis

TIME: 10:06 P.M.

DATE: 10/28/91

CITY: St. Louis

LARRY CONNERS: "There's a shocking new report which says U. S. companies dumped more than half a billion tons of toxic chemicals into sewers in 1989. That report says some of the worse polluters are right here in St. Louis. Nightside's Jonathan Hall reports."

JONATHAN HALL: "The U. S. Public Interest Research Group studied chemical discharge reports for 1989, which have just been released by the EPA. U.S. PIRG says we all have reason to be concerned."

ROB STUART (U.S. PIRG Environmental Advocate): "Some of these substances carried serious health risks. Seventy-nine million pounds of (triogodents), those are substances which cause birth defects: 55 million of reproductive toxins and another 4 million of substances which are known are suspected carcinogens."

HALL: "MoPIRG, this state's student run public interest research group says we don't have to look far to find the worst offenders."

LAURA BARRETT (MoPIRG Executive Director): "Four out of the ten most prominent polluters in the country were found to be here in Missouri in the St. Louis area. These kinds of things do not need to be happening, there are substitutes available."

HALL: "In terms of volume the worse discharges in the country happened at the Columbian Chemicals plant in south St. Louis County. The Mallinckrodt and Monsanto plants in St. Louis and the Monsanto plant in Sauget also have the dubious distinction of making that top ten list."

"A Monsanto spokesman told me, quote, we have a very aggressive waste reduction program in place, our target is to reduce releases of hazardous chemicals 70 percent by the end of 1995."

"The chemical companies say the toxic they release into the sewers are not a public health threat because they are treated before being released into the water supply, however,

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7638 Big Bend Boulevard, St. Louis, Missouri 63119
(314) 981-4113

KMOV Ch. 4 10/28/91 10:06 P.M.

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MoPIRG says it's impossible to purge these chemicals from the water."

TERRY BRIGGS: "There is no problem then with the public drinking supply or in the quality of water released into the Mississippi because they're meeting federal and state clean water standards."

HALL: "You're able to get the chemicals out?"

BRIGGS: "We're able to get the chemicals out. Correct."

HALL: "The worst polluter on the list, the Columbian Chemicals plant in south St. Louis County dumps 52 million tons of ammonium sulfate into the sewer every year but it's all legal and Terry Briggs says the EPA may take ammonium sulfate off of its list of dangerous chemicals which must be reported, so there you go. Who do you believe and which chemicals are bad, which are good. It's difficult for the consumer to know what to think."

CONNERS: "Did Briggs say why the EPA would take that off the list?"

HALL: "It's just once in a while they go through the chemicals and decide which ones are tougher, of course, MoPIRG says they should be putting more chemicals on."

DSW 136179

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County ranks second in toxic waste sewage

By MARILYN VISE
News-Democrat

More than 62 percent of toxic waste releases into Illinois sewer systems occur in St. Clair County, ranking it second in the nation among counties and second only to St. Louis County, a new national study shows.

The study, called "Toxic Trick or Treatment," was released by the U.S. Public Interest Research Group in Washington, D.C., in an effort to build support for new laws tightening allowable toxic releases. The city of St. Louis ranks seventh on the list.

The study was immediately attacked by chemical industry groups that said it is misleading. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency also was critical.

The study ranks Illinois third highest nationally in the amount of

toxic chemicals dumped into the states' sewage systems.

According to the study:

- St. Clair County industries are responsible for 62.9 percent of the state's toxic sewage release.

- Toxic sewage dumped in the county in 1989 totaled 36.8 million pounds.

- Cook County ranked 10th the nation in toxic sewer releases in 1989 with 25 percent of the state total or 14.6 million pounds.

- St. Louis County released 69 percent of Missouri's toxic sewer wastes in 1989, or 53.1 million pounds.

- St. Louis City released 27 percent of Missouri's 1989 toxic sewer wastes at 20.9 million pounds.

The report reviews information on

See TOXIC/3A

Wednesday, October 30, 1991

Belleville (Ill.) News-Democrat

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Toxic

Continued from 1A

toxic releases into sewers and identifies the nation's top releasers and the community sewers receiving the greatest volume of toxics from industries required to report discharges. Monsanto's plant in Saugeat is ranked fourth among the top 25 industries listed.

"This report was not released to scare people," said Rob Stuart, a spokesman for the research group. "This is to underscore the need for Congress to take action and address the toxic waste problem."

The Public Interest Research Group, founded in 1971, is a consumer and environmental advocacy group. The toxic study was based on reports that manufacturers filed to the U.S.

EPA under the federal Community Right-to-Know law for discharges in 1989. A similar study will be released next year using information filed in 1990, Stuart said.

Stuart said Monsanto in Saugeat releases more chemicals that can cause cancer, birth defects and reproductive hazards into area sewage treatment centers than any other company in the county.

"Monsanto is a big offender," Stuart said. "Most of what is released in sewers is their stuff and it is a lot of stuff. Most sewage treatment plants are not designed to treat toxics, so they are really just being released to the environment."

Andi Smith, a spokesman for Monsanto, said the company already has reduced some of the toxic releases by installing a \$25 million waste

treatment system.

"We have a commitment to reduce releases of hazardous waste by 70 percent by 1995," Smith said. "The company has a definite and strong commitment to reduce hazardous waste."

Stuart said he hopes the study will help persuade Congress to require more enforcement through the Clean Water Act.

"Tighter controls are needed," Stuart said. "Congress needs to focus on working with companies to reduce toxics in the first place."

Jeffrey Van, a spokesman for the Chemical Manufacturers Association, said the group was "distorting and misusing" the EPA numbers, which are submitted annually by industry.

One of the things they don't talk about is concentration or exposure," he said. "The volumes we're talking about are incredibly diluted waste streams. In our industry, 98 to 99 percent of the volume (of wastes into sewer systems) is water."

EPA spokesman Sean McElbeny did not dispute the figures, but said the discharges are legal if the toxic chemicals are first treated by the industry.

"Under the Clean Water Act, industrial facilities must pretreat their waste water effluence so that the toxic and hazardous chemicals don't pass through into surface waters and so they don't cause damage to the treatment facilities or harm workers," he said.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

DSW 136181

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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1991

Rank Area Sewers Are Labeled Most Polluted

By Bill Lambrecht

Post-Dispatch Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — A national study released on Monday says that more industrial chemicals flow into sewers in the St. Louis area than sewers anywhere in the nation.

In a study called "Toxic Trick or Treatment," the U.S. Public Interest Research Group argued that industries ought to reduce their use of chemicals rather than flush them down the drain for publicly owned plants to treat.

"When they dump these poisons into the sewers, it is an act of violence against people," said Tom Regan, who represented the Missouri Public Interest Research Group at a news conference to release the report.

The Public Interest Research Group, founded in 1971, is a consumer and environmental advocacy organization that says it has one million members. The study released Monday is based on reports that manufacturers filed under the federal Community Right-to-Know law for discharges in 1989.

The report rates St. Louis County sewers first and St. Clair County in Illinois second among counties in the volume of chemicals they handle from industry. The city of St. Louis ranked seventh on the list.

Among other rankings, Missouri led all states in the amount of chemicals reaching its sewers with a total of 76.5 million pounds. Also, five of the top ten manufacturers ranked by the volume of their chemical discharges were in the St. Louis area.

Rob Stuart, a spokesman for the public interest group, said that his organization hoped to persuade Congress to require more enforcement under Clean Water legislation and more reporting under the Right-to-Know law.

The rankings were heavily influenced by releases of one chemical, ammonium sulfate, which is used in the production of fertilizers and other products. By most accounts, ammonium sulfate is only mildly hazardous.

Mary Ellen Weber, of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's toxic substances office, said that her division was considering a petition from industry to exclude ammonium sulfate from the chemicals that must be reported.

But as it stands, Weber said, ammonium sulfate remains among the 300 chemicals covered in the Right-to-Know law.

Studies have shown that ammonium sulfate can burn human skin and kills fish exposed over a long time, said Geoff Lomax. He is a scientist at the Washington-based National Environmental Law Center. The law center co-wrote the report.

Two of Monsanto Co.'s plants — one in Cahokia and one in St. Louis — ranked among the top ten in release of the chemicals.

Diane G. Bartolanzo, a spokeswoman for Monsanto, said that chemicals released by the plants posed little danger. At its Krummerich plant in Illinois, Monsanto already has reduced discharge of some of the chemicals in accordance with a companywide program to minimize the release of toxic materials, she said.

Production changes also have reduced discharges at Monsanto's Queeny plant at 1700 South Second Street in St. Louis, Bartolanzo said.

"If they're trying to scare people about these amounts of chemicals going into the environment, it's not true, because these chemicals go to [sewage] treatment facilities before they're released," she said.

The Columbian Chemicals Co. plant in Lemay led the national list of facilities that discharge toxic wastes. The company was reported to have dumped 52 million pounds of ammonium sulfate in 1989.

"Fifty-two million pounds sounds like a lot, but you have to look at the details of the material," said Bernard Rains, director of environmental compliance for the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District.

Ammonium sulfate has a "low toxicity," Rains said. The compound's toxic component — ammonia — amounts to about 13 million pounds of the 52 million.

Columbia's discharge is treated at the Lemay sewage treatment plant and tested before being released into the Mississippi River, Rains said.

"There is no indicated toxicity in

Sewer Systems Handling The Most Industrial Chemicals

COUNTY	STATE	TOXICS (LBS.)
St. Louis	Mo.	53,092,144
St. Clair	Ill.	36,798,373
Los Angeles	Calif.	36,493,176
Hopewell City	Va.	33,542,843
Harris	Texas	25,300,265
Essex	N.J.	22,411,332
St. Louis City	Mo.	20,893,932
Hamilton	Ohio	19,741,795
Shelby	Tenn.	19,000,351
Cook	Ill.	14,649,220
Middlesex	N.J.	12,884,838
Brown	Wis.	9,324,111
Passaic	N.J.	9,318,152
Philadelphia	Pa.	8,621,052
Bay	Fla.	8,458,586
Bergen	N.J.	8,292,159
Hampden	Mass.	6,927,773
Union	N.J.	6,766,260
Columbia	Ore.	6,387,027
Gulf	Fla.	6,095,470
Orange	Calif.	5,335,657
Galveston	Texas	4,505,151
Milwaukee	Wis.	4,409,481
Marion	Ind.	4,294,823
Erie	Pa.	4,265,597

Source: 1989 EPA data

Post Dispatch chart

William Allen of the Post-Dispatch staff contributed information for this story.

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