Monsanto

FROM (NAME & LOCATION): B2SC P. G. Benignus

DATE: March 9, 1972 CC:

SUBJECT: ASTM - Washington DC Meeting
March 1972

REFERENCE: Askarel Dielectrics

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I. PCBs:

On behalf of industry and Government it is important to document at ASTM the methodology for "Detection and Determination of PCBs In The Environment". To do this a new Section was formed under D-27 and they appointed me as chairman to get the work done, especially as Monsanto developed methods will be used.

II. Method For Determining The Higher Chlorinated PCB Content of Aroclor 1016:

This also must be documented as an ASTM method to cover our official specification maximum of 0.4%. As Earl Morrison of the City of Los Angeles Light, Water and Power already heads an ASTM section on gas chromatography my committee delegated to his section the work to study Monsanto's method and draw it up into the official ASTM form.

III. ASTM D2233:

As this covers the official specifications for capacitor Aroclor it must be changed to include Aroclor 1016 and show that this material is now used exclusively in the U.S.A.

Specifications for the other capacitor Aroclors will remain on the books for information only as absolute items.

IV. ASTM D2283:

As this lists the official specifications for transformer askarels it must be changed to list the formulations currently purchased and show the others as obsolete (for information only).

Our changed specs for Aroclor 1254 will have to be posted and carried through to the blends.

Products to be shown as current will include:

1) GE's new Pyranol, based on Aroclor 1254 and TTCB
2) Inerteen 70-30, based on Aroclor 1254 and TCB
3) Inerteen 100-42, based on 100% 1242

All other blends used through the years will be indicated as obsolete in the U.S.A.

V. Power Factor of Askarels:

We have "hammered home" the fact that Monsanto has arrived at the most accurate method to measure the power factor of askarels. No one questions this. But evidently, no one in the industry other than possible GE at Hudson Falls in the capacitor area are about to undertake what is required to carry out our proper measurement.

Accordingly this subject remains pesky and unwieldy regarding setting specifications and limits relative to indicating the suitability of especially transformer insulation materials.

VI. Resistivity:

We are well along the way for dropping this "long time honored" value for judging the quality of askarel dielectrics. Emphasis is now on power factor (as it should be).

VII. Next ASTM meeting will be in June, 1972 in Los Angeles.

VIII. Askarels-Mexico: Mr. Schmill represents the Mexican Gov. (Mexico Lt. & Power) at our ASTM committees. The City of Mexico has over 400 askarel transformers in service and add 40 more units annually. Also, there is considerable use of aroclor capacitors in Mexico.

As Monsanto seeks restrictions, we are first obligated to show cause and clarify involvement, i.e. explain the PCB pollution problem to the Mexican Gov. and industry. We have not done this, although Bill Papageorge and I have offered to do it.

If our people cannot make the arrangements for the desired meeting, please indicate this. I will then arrange it through Mexico Lt. & Power and Gov. people.

P. G. Benignus

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