P Ex 2894

Monsanto

FROM (NAME & LOCATION): W. R. Richard - T3A

DATE: May 29, 1975

cc: J. P. Mieure - T2F
[redacted] - T1B

SUBJECT: DIBENZOFURANS IN AROCLOR

REFERENCE: HSB/WRR 5/23/75

TO: H. S. Bergen - B2SL

Bob Kaley attended "5th Annual Symposium on Recent Advances in Analytical Chemistry of Pollutants", May 19-21. Irwin Pomerantz of FDA presented a paper claiming 1 to several ppm chlorinated dibenzofurans in Aroclor 1016, Aroclor 1242, none in Aroclor 1221. No technical proof was presented - just a claim.

Kaley and Mieure have done more work. They are still not convinced chlorinated benzofurans are present; possible level 10X less than Pomerantz claim. Papageorge and Mieure are to call on Pomerantz to discuss analytical methods next week.

Mieure does report 0.3 ppm benzofuran in biphenyl. We have speculated that we could have 0.3 ppm of chlorinated benzofuran present in Aroclor.

Munch has not tackled Levinskas on the biological significance of 0.3 ppm. This is the level of argument for tetrachlorodibenzodioxin in 2,4,5-T. The case was never brought to trial vs. Dow because of lack of evidence.

In our case the argument is about chlorinated dibenzofurans. The toxicity should be lower and the chlorination level should be lower than tetra if they are present in Aroclor 1016. Fractional distillation at the same chlorination level as biphenyl should concentrate any chlorinated dibenzofurans in the still pot.

Will tackle Levinskas and see what comes out of Papageorge-Mieure visit before doing more work.

WR.

W. R. Richard

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