PCB

required and reported such matter to the Senate and the Senate has affirmatively, by resolution, indicated approval of the revised reprogramming or transfer of funds for such purpose.

Sec. 2. Nothing contained in the first section of this resolution shall require that any report, or the contents thereof, made by any committee of the Senate in accordance with such section be publicly disclosed.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 84—SUBMISSION OF A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PRINTING OF A REPORT

(Referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration.)

Mr. HELMS (for himself and Mr. MORGAN) submitted the following concurrent resolution:

S. CON. RES. 84

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That the report of the proceedings of the forty-seventh biennial meeting of the Convention of American Instructors of the Deaf, held in Owensboro, North Carolina, from June 22, 1975, through June 27, 1975, be printed with illustrations as a Senate document. Five thousand five hundred additional copies of such document shall be printed for the use of the Joint Committee on Printing.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED FOR PRINTING

TOXIC SUBSTANCES ACT—S. 776

AMENDMENT NO. 1326

(Ordered to be printed and referred to the Committee on Commerce.)

Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, scientific evidence makes it inexcusingly clear that the PCB's—polychlorinated biphenyls—pollution problem may be one of the most serious ever to confront the environment and to threaten human health.

We can no longer afford to wait and debate the risks versus the commercial benefits. As in the case of DDT, it is apparent that the risks to human health and the environment far exceed the benefits. More importantly, alternatives to the complacent use of these substances are being developed.

For this reason, I am proposing that all nonenclosed uses of PCB's cease immediately and that all enclosed uses be ended within 1 year of enactment of a bill requiring such cessation, assuming that viable and safe alternatives exist for such substances.

WHAT THE BILL WOULD DO

First, ban all nonenclosed uses of PCB's immediately. This would include but is not limited to such uses as in carbonless paper, paints, coatings, soaps, copying ink toners.

Second, ban all enclosed uses 1 year after enactment, if the Administrator of EPA finds there are safe and viable alternatives available.

Third, require EPA to define "enclosed," based on minimum leakage.

Fourth, require labeling of all products containing PCB's, which products are manufactured after the issuance of such labeling regulations, mean: that they contain PCB's and meet be disposed of in accordance with Federal regulations.

Fifth, require regulations controlling disposal of PCB's and PCB-containing products, and recycling of PCB's.

Sixth, encourage research into the development of alternatives to PCB's for industrial uses.

All imported PCB's would be subject to the same restrictions.

The goal is to eliminate the use of PCB's in the long term and to minimize their pollution effect.

It is preferable not to enact legislation on a substance-by-substance basis. However, the PCB problem shows no sign of abating, and it has become so severe, that it is necessary to address the problem head on, as we were forced to do with DDT.

THE PROBLEM

Nathaniel Reed, Assistant Secretary of Interior for Fish, Wildlife and Parks, stated at a conference in Chicago on PCB's November 18-21:

We must immediately respond to the dangers posed by PCB's: they represent an ubiquitous degenerative influence on our national health and well being. . . . Our food and water supplies are contaminated; our health is threatened; and we are faced with "environmental stress" about which we know comparatively little.

At least 10 million pounds of PCB's are lost into the environment each year through vaporization, leaks, and spills, according to estimates reported by Thomas E. Kopp, a chemist with the Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Toxic Substances.

At least 10 plants are dumping PCB's into U.S. waterways and another two are discharging the chemicals in municipal sewage treatment systems, according to the EPA.

PCB's are chemical compounds widely used in both closed and nonclosed commercial uses because of their stability, fire resistance, and electrical insulating properties.

They have been found to be far more resistant than DDT to degradation by natural forces. Thus, they are building up in concentration in the environment, wildlife, and human tissues.

They have been found, in scientific tests, to cause severe skin and liver problems in humans.

University of Wisconsin Medical School researchers, Dr. James R. Allen and Deborah Barsotti, have demonstrated that very low PCB levels are dangerous to primates, causing facial swelling, loss of hair, bone lesions within 1 month, birth defects, miscarriages, still births, and death.

Other research shows similar problems with fish and wildlife, such as reproductive failure identified in herring gull colonies around Lake Ontario.

The Food and Drug Administration admits that PCB's have infiltrated our food, milk, water, and meat, to the extent that the FDA has been forced to set tolerance levels of allowable amounts of PCB's in the food supply.

Despite efforts to voluntarily limit the commercial use of PCB's to closed systems and to reduce U.S. production—by the only U.S. manufacturer, Monsanto Co.—the pollution has not been reduced. This is due in part to their indestructibility; to the fact that U.S. users of PCB's are obtaining supplies from foreign producers for nonenclosed uses, such as in hand soaps, copying ink toners, and other products; and to the fact that PCB's still are being spilled or leaked, either accidentally or directly, into the environment.

A 1972 report by a Federal Government task force urged a ban on all PCB uses except in closed electrical systems, restricting them to "essential or nonreplaceable uses which involve minimum direct human exposure, since they can have adverse effects on human health."

The commercial fishing industry in the Great Lakes and elsewhere are threatened with extinction, unless the PCB problem can be alleviated or eliminated. Thousands of pounds of Great Lakes fish have been condemned as unsafe because of PCB contamination, and New York State conservation officials warn against eating Hudson River fish.

Water supplies throughout the Nation are contaminated far in excess of safe drinking criteria.

There has not been adequate monitoring of the extent of the pollution, nor of the sources of the pollution.

A continuing widespread accumulation of PCBs in water, sediment and fish appears to be occurring. A significant proportion of the nation's waters are now affected and will continue to be.

As stated at the November Chicago PCB conference by Dr. David Hall, Director, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences:

Thus, in a relatively short period of time, we saw a man-made compound introduced into commerce for a relatively narrow purpose, a closed use, broadened through new applications and discovered to be hazardous to animals, birds, fish, and to man, in slightly more than two generations, we had closed the all-too-frequent circle of progress: product development, distribution, use, and resulting hazard to human health.

FACTS

PCB's have been banned for most use in Japan—after a 1972 poisoning of more than 1,000 persons who had eaten PCB-tainted rice cooking oil.

Alternatives have been instituted in Japan, and are being developed in the United States. For example, air-filled transformers have been used for years instead of PCB-filled transformers.

Use of alternatives to PCB's may require retooling and redesigning of some electrical products and equipment which now use PCB's.

PCB's can be destroyed in special incinerators at very high temperature.

PCB's can be recycled.

We can no longer afford to wait. Elimination of PCB's, with an ultimate goal of eliminating their use altogether, and thus, of reducing their pollution of the ecosystem, must be undertaken immediately.

There is no dispute over their toxicity to wildlife and to humans. The risks of further contamination—with the threat that future human generations may experience genetic damage and birth defects—far outweigh the commercial benefits of their continued use.

The PCB's problem is an example of the need for toxic substances con-

hues, which must provide a means to exhaustively recycle the pollutant instead on public lands of subterranean prior to their use. Such laws also must provide authority to limit the use and distribution of polychlorines.

The old, section, the bill is proposed as an amendment to the Toxic Substances Act, which has been pending before the Congress for more than 5 years. If that had been enacted, the Federal Government would now have the authority to regulate PCB's.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the amendment and the following articles describing the PCB problem be inserted into the Record following these remarks: "The Spreading Menace of PCB," by Robert H. Boyle, Sports Illustrated, December 1, 1975, page 20; Air/Water Pollution Report, November 24, 1975, page 463, and December 1, 1975, page 473; Environmental Report, September 5, 1975, page 67; an article from the Milwaukee Journal, November 23, 1975; a list of accidents caused by PCB's from a conference report of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, Paris, 1973; an editorial from the Milwaukee Journal, August 11, 1975; and an article from the Milwaukee Sentinel, November 11, 1975.

There being no objection, the amendment and material were ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

AMENDMENT No. 1894

On page 31, between lines 4 and 5, insert the following:

(e) PCB Research Programs.—The Administrator shall, at the earliest practical time after the date of enactment of this Act, undertake and support programs of research to develop effective and safe alternatives to the use of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB's). The Administrator also shall undertake an intensive research program for the development of safe methods for the disposition of products containing polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB's) and for control or elimination of PCB hazards, which presently threaten the environment.

On page 36, line 5, insert "(a)" immediately after "Sec. 13.".

On page 36, between lines 22 and 23, insert the following:

(b) It shall be unlawful for any person to—

(1) use any polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) in commerce except as provided in subsection (c) of this section;

(2) distribute in commerce any product which contains (in a totally enclosed manner) a polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) unless such product bears a label clearly indicating, in accordance with regulations issued by the Administrator, that such product (A) contains a polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB), and (B) may not be disposed of except in accordance with regulations issued by the Administrator; or

(3) reuse any polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) except in accordance with regulations issued by the Administrator.

(c) The prohibition contained in subsection (b) (1) of this section shall not apply in the case of the use of any polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) in connection—

(1) for a period of one year after the date of enactment of this Act if such chemical is used in a totally enclosed manner, and

(2) for any period or periods beyond such one year period if the Administrator (A) authorizes the continued use of such chemical for such period or periods because of a determination by him that no safe and effective substitute is available as a replacement for such chemical, and (B) such chemical is used in a totally enclosed manner.

On page 53, between lines 10 and 16, insert the following:

REGULATIONS

SEC. 20. (a) Definition of "Polychlorinated Biphenyl (PCB)".—The Administrator shall, within 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, define by regulation the term "polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB)".

(b) Definition of "Totally Enclosed Manner".—The Administrator shall, within 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, issue regulations defining the term "totally enclosed manner" for purposes of section 10(b) and (c) of this Act. The Administrator shall define such term so as to insure the safety of a polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) from its exposure will be in such an insignificant amount as to be harmless.

(c) Labeling of Products Containing PCB's.—The Administrator shall, within 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, issue regulations specifying the manner in which products containing polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB's) shall be labeled so as to clearly indicate to the purchasers and users of such products that such products contain polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB's) and that such products may not be disposed of except in accordance with regulations issued by the Administrator.

(d) Disposal of Products Containing PCB's.—The Administrator shall, within 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, issue regulations prescribing approved methods for the disposition of products containing polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB's).

(e) Reuse of PCB's.—The Administrator shall, within 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, issue regulations prescribing the manner in which polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB's) may be reused.

On page 53, line 20, strike out "Sec. 20" and insert in lieu thereof "Sec. 21".

On page 5, in the table of sections, strike out "Sec. 13" and insert in lieu thereof "Sec. 13".

[From Sports Illustrated, Dec. 1, 1975]

THE SPREADING MENACE OF PCB

(By Robert H. Boyle)

There was frantic laughter in the police ship of Chicago's Fish Commissioner Dick Daley when Wisconsin's Coach Assistant Fred Swan of the Packers [illegible] and Swan [illegible] and Daley, planted at the mean and said, "Ah, fresh salmon steelhead! Only an hour before, at the concluding session of the National Conference on Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs), Reed had delivered a blistering speech on PCB contamination of fish, including Great Lakes salmon.

"The problem is nothing less than serious," Reed had emphasized in grave, measured tones. Chemicals and concentrations of PCBs are likely to be checked by the presidents of PCBs; they are [illegible] every place. I am very troubled by the exceedingly high levels found in fish in all the Great Lakes systems, and I do not mean just in Lake Michigan and the Great Lakes system, but the Hudson and Connecticut rivers of the Atlantic Coast, the Mississippi and Ohio rivers of the Midwest, the Columbia River system in the northwest, the Sacramento in the West, the Rio Grande and other Gulf Coast streams . . . even the Yukon River in Alaska."

Reed called for the elimination of all sources of PCBs in the U.S. environment within three years. With a caution unusual for a federal official, he criticized the inaction of the environment, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, which has done little about the law, and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, which has established a "tolerance" level of five parts per million of PCBs in fish for human consumption.

"Quite frankly," Reed concluded his speech, "I am thoroughly disgusted by the foundering of teeth, welfare and feebleness of hands. To the agencies which have the enforcement responsibilities, a word on behalf of the handicapped but concerned American people—get on with it!"

PCBs are chlorinated hydrocarbon compounds used by industries throughout the world because of their resistance to heat. More durable than DDT, PCBs are a proven menace to animal organisms, ranging from invertebrates to man (H. Repr. 11). In 1971, an estimated 1,500 Japanese were dead or badly poisoned after using rice oil heavily contaminated with PCBs. The clinical effects included stillbirths, undersized infants, bone and joint deformation and various neurological disorders, including loss of hearing.

In this country, in a recent experiment on laboratory rats, PCBs caused liver cancer. Last week in Chicago the scientist in charge of that experiment, Dr. Donald G. Kimbrough of the U.S. Public Health Service, delivered a paper in which she warned, "Because of these findings in experimental animals, ingestion of PCBs in human food be curtailed." The EPA estimates that about half the American public now carries around with it from one to three parts per million of PCBs in its fatty tissues.

Another speaker at the Chicago meeting was Dr. James R. Allen of the University of Wisconsin Medical School, who fed eight female rhesus monkeys a diet that included 2.5 ppm of Aroclor 1248 (one of the nine fundamental PCB compounds made by the sole domestic manufacturer, Monsanto Industrial Chemicals Company) for six months. They were then bred to normally fed male rhesus monkeys. Two females reported their fetuses, one suffered a stillbirth, and the five infants born were all undersized. Two of the infants died while nursing. The three survivors are now eight months old, and although they have been on a PCB-free diet for four months, preliminary observations by Dr. Diane H. Barsotti, a colleague of Dr. Allen, indicate that the youngsters are hyperactive.

The PCB problem, which has been building for years, began to receive wide public attention last summer when Odell A. Dole, commissioner of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, warned the public against eating fish caught from the Hudson River or caught from Lake Ontario. Dole based his warning after finding a record 4 ppm PCB content in one sport fish. Two General Electric plants at Hudson Falls and Fort Edward were discharging at least 20 pounds of PCBs per day into the river. In September, Reed brought action against G.E. to force the company to reduce its discharge to two pounds a day by Jan. 31 and to zero by Sept. 30 of next year. Also in the new suit, Reed asked for $100 million in damages from G.E. In commenting on all the way. It is worth noting, however, that in response to a state interagency board, the hearing began, G.E. admitted, "During the past 10 years, 40 employees have reported to the dispensaries complaining of allergic dermatitis, fatigue and/or hearing, been caused by contact with PCBs."

No one really knew that PCBs were present in the world environment until 1966 when Swedish Dr. Soren Jensen, I. dated and identified the components that had been leaking from rubber working on DDT. In time, PCBs were then commonly used in a wide variety of everyday products, such as polish, laminated coating components. In 1971 Monsanto estimated it would require sales of PCBs to use in so-called "closed system" devices, such as capacitors and transformers. U.S. industry turns out more than two billion capacitors a year, including those for home air conditioners. When junked, each

an item is commonly taken to a dump, where the cleaner adds that PCBs can leach through the soil to bodies of water. In western New York State several companies have been dubbing PCBs from old transformers, using them with creosote oil and selling the gunk to road builders to put in roads as a dust suppressant. There is also a report the PCBs have been sprayed on airport runways in Maryland to prevent skidding in wet weather.

Beyond such practices, there is the danger that transformers can rupture or leak. According to EPA's study, serious leaks in Chicago, a transformer leak occurred on April 16, 1974 on a railroad track running between Philadelphia and Paoli, Pa. From 10 to 100 pounds of PCBs were spilled. Two more types of spillage occurred on July 6 of last year, from a transformer leak in Stamford, Conn.

On March 6, 1973, a truck developed a leak in Kingston, Wash., and 500 gallons of PCBs were spilled. Two thousand seals were recovered in 31,000 drums and sealed in concrete at a cost of $1.9 million. It was paid by O.E., which was shipping the chemical. Local residents also brought damage suits against O.E. and last October a judge awarded them a total of $124,000.

The U.S. Department of Defense was involved in a March 22 PCB episode with other governmental agencies in Seattle. On Friday, March 19, 1971 an electrical transformer contained for an Air Force radar station in Murray, Alaska fell on a pier in Seattle and 450 gallons of PCBs bled into the Duwamish River. Efforts refused to responsibility to aid the U.S. Coast Guard, which has the primary obligation to clean up oil and other harbor spills. The Coast Guard said PCBs were not among the chemicals it was required to recover. The EPA had to hire divers who brought up 70 to 75 gallons of the compound, and in February of this year the Defense Department finally agreed to pay the cost, $13,000.

But recovery from the Duwamish spill is far from total. EPA officials estimate 60 to 80 gallons remain in the riverbed, and Defense has assigned the job to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The Corps is scheduled to begin dredging 10,000 cubic yards of river bottom sometime around the first of the year. Estimated cost of the project is between a quarter and half a million dollars.

Although the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (Fone up to five parts per million of PCBs in fish, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regards the per cent of a half part per million (0.5 ppm) in a fish as a sure sign of trouble in a watercourse. According to Charles Walker, Leader Petition spokesman for the Service, who delivered the petition in Chicago, trouble spots on the Atlantic Coast range from the Androscoggin River in Maine down to the St. Johns in Florida. On the Gulf Coast affected areas extend from the Rio Grande east to the Apalachicola in the Florida Panhandle. The Mississippi-Missouri system has PCB hot spots. On the West Coast, the Sacramento River, Columbia and Snake River basin problems and they abound in the Great Lakes region and in the St. Lawrence.

Last week, Canadian officials announced they were mapping efforts to reduce levels from 5 ppm to two ppm and hope to well clear the St. Lawrence.

Obviously, some fish in the U.S. have higher than 5 ppm. Here are some PCB values for fish caught in the PCB-fouled Hudson River: brown bullhead catfish, Coxsackie, Ohio River, 120 ppm; yellow bullhead catfish, Hudson, Ohio River, 30 ppm; white perch, Hudson River, 20 ppm; white perch, Coxsackie, Hudson River, 20 ppm; white perch, Coxsackie, Hudson River, 20 ppm; white perch, Coxsackie

Hudson River. In Canada, Department of National Health and Welfare announced establishment of temporary guidelines of 2 ppm for PCBs in fish in that country. DOW explained that only certain fish species from locations in the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River have a PCB problem and that levels of the chemicals in other foods have been controlled.

STANDARD SOUGHT TO PROTECT BASS AND SHAD

Explaining EDF and NRDC request for lower levels of PCBs in fish, Dr. Joseph Highland, project of EDF's toxic chemicals program, explained that "quite real concentrations" allowed by the FDA to favor levels of PCBs per billion in food will not only endanger the fish to consumers from involuntary exposure to a potential human carcinogen, but will also educate the public and governmental regulatory agencies regarding the need to eliminate entirely continuing environmental contamination with PCBs from whatever sources."

At the Chicago conference, Nicholas A. Ruffalo Alaska told the environmental group supporting suit only a phaseout of all uses of PCBs but also a ban on import and export of PCBs; development of PCB use and consumption inventory to pinpoint all discharges of the substances into the environment; accelerated program of monitoring and surveillance of PCBs in fish, wildlife and foods by State and Federal agencies; moratorium on all dredging of river bottoms until a study is conducted to examine resultant resuspension of PCBs in river water; promulgation by EPA of toxic standards for PCBs such that water in receiving streams has a maximum of 0.001 parts per billion level; and swift passage of toxic substances control legislation.

Reporting on reduction of PCB levels in foods as a result of ban on PCBs in packaging, and purchased systems, FDA's C. F. Jelinek and P. E. Cornelussen told monitoring program is found years 1972, 1973 and 1974 indicate that PCBs now contaminate far fewer types of food than formerly, and that fairly broad level of occurrence of PCBs have declined very drastically in all categories except fish."

Comprehensive fish survey conducted in Great 1970 reveals which species and geographical areas are of concern in regard to PCBs, they said, but significant trends are difficult to determine. After study of principally commercial fish species, survey found that more than 50% of samples contained no PCBs; about 5% contained over 5 ppm and 95% more than 5 ppm of PCBs. Jelinek and Cornelussen said that the only fish which contained more than 5 ppm of PCBs were carp, with the maximum level 20.8 ppm.

Comparison of all samples of dressed fish in FY 1970-74 showed that "the percent of fish samples containing PCBs decreased, but on the other hand, the percent of PCB-containing samples which were above 5 ppm increased. Interestingly, all three samples were from the districts in the Great Lakes area, and included such species as chubs, carp and coho salmon."

[From Environment Report, Sept. 5, 1975]

PCB DUMPS

The Environmental Protection Agency is stepping up its efforts to law off-site and recommend controls for polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), in the wake of "new evidence" that the chemicals may be more toxic and persistent than previously thought. The evidence follows a series of recent actions by State and Federal agencies, including Department of Transportation Board of Great Lakes Fish by the Food and Drug Administration, and a warning against eating Hudson River fish by New York State health officials.

"A continuing review and reexamination of PCBs in water, soil, air and fish appears to be necessary," EPA analysts warn in a study to be presented later this month. "A significant proportion of the nation's waters are now affected and will continue to be," they add.

Level, as high as 850 ppm and 165 ppm have been detected in Hudson River and Lake Michigan fish, well in excess of 5 ppm—the FDA's "temporary tolerance" limit.

The principal use of PCB is as an insulating fluid in "closed" electrical systems, and Monsanto, the only U.S. producer, is "devoted to the" limiting its sale of the product to such purposes, which would presumably provide a safeguard against environmental contamination.

However, the EPA study noted that there have been two major spills involving PCB leakage from transformers during the past year, and there is a potential hazard from the leaks of thousands of capacitors, each containing several gallons of PCBs, awaiting disposal.

Major loopholes currently exist in EPA's authority, the report said. It has no authority to regulate the product for other applications, and that most of the 875,000 or more pounds of imports for 1974 were used for other than closed electrical systems, including heat-transfer coating processes, heat exchanger fluids and hydraulic fluids.

The director of EPA's Office of Toxic Substances, G.E. Schweitzer, announced that the agency is asking the National Academy of Sciences to determine whether a drinking water standard for PCBs is needed, and has requested information from 84 companies suspected of using the chemical.

Schweitzer also said EPA is initiating a series of new actions related to PCBs, including a limited national sampling effort, a program to help local conservation agencies develop hazard sampling techniques, and an examination of possible substitutes for PCBs.

However, the National Resources Defense Council, in a letter to Administrator S. Train, accused EPA of "not acting on information it had for more than a year." The environmental group urged Train to establish a "one-part-per-trillion standard for PCBs within one year and a "zero discharge" standard "in a few years." NRDC is also filing a petition of toxic action request that EPA reduce the number of the 84 companies believed to be using PCBs.

While EPA currently considers a PCB concentration of 5 ppb in municipal water as an "appropriate goal," the latest indications that no PCB concentration is tolerable, setting a zero goal for pollutants, such a standard.

The increased interest in PCBs by EPA, as well as by other nationals and local health officials, stems in part from two recent studies. One, by researchers at the University of Wisconsin Medical School, reportedly publishes that a one administration of PCBs as low as 2.5 and 5 ppm produces serious adverse health effects in rats, eg., including "many disruptions of the process of birth, even fetal deaths.

Another study, headed by Dr. R. Rhodes of the Center for Disease Control of the U.S. Public Health Service, Atlanta, concludes that one particular PCB known as Aroclor 1254 produced liver cancer in rats. Findings are expected to be published in the Journal of the National Cancer Institute.

The PCB issue was also highlighted in May when a Mississippi committee, composed of state and Federal officials, recommended that PCBs be banned in almost all uses.

The Lake Michigan Toxic Substances Committee said PCBs have reached "at high levels in fish and [illegible] food chain organisms, despite programs to locate sources, eliminate discharges and recommend proper handling and disposal procedures.

[From the Milwaukee Journal, Nov. 22, 1975]

PCB BAN URGED BY U.S. AIDE

Chicago, Ill.—A top federal fish and wildlife official says the industrial chemicals known as PCBs should be banned nationally because they are threatening the nation's health.

Nathaniel P. Reed, assistant secretary of the interior for fish, wildlife and parks, said Friday, "Our rivers and streams are sick."

He said the $175 million Great Lakes fish restoration program will not succeed if the chemicals continued in use.

The federal Food and Drug Administration already bans the commercial sale of trout with a PCB content of five parts per million, and Canada has a two parts per million limit.

Reed, addressing a national conference on PCBs organized by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and other federal agencies, said polychlorinated biphenyls or PCBs, threatened to wipe out fishing in the Great Lakes within a generation.

"Nothing short of immediate decisive action will enable us to make anything better than lakes full of enmeshed fish," Reed said.

PCBs have been widely used as heating and funds in certain electrical equipment and in hydraulic fluids, lubricants, heat transfer fluids, and as plasticizers in cutting oils, sealants, printing inks, coatings and waxes.

Earlier this week, the EPA for the first time identified 16 industrial discharges of PCBs into the nation's waters and said 24 other electric equipment makers discharged PCBs into sewage treatment plants.

But, said Thomas Jorgo, an EPA chemist, "you're only looking at the tip of the iceberg when you look at the municipalities."

He told the conference that local PCB pollution occurred through the disposal of products in which the chemical is used.

"For example," he said, "what do you think happens to the bucket that Uncle Sam has right above your head when it's upheld? Vastly a capacitor. Its thrown in the trash somewhere and ultimately, through runoff, the PCB finds its way to the lakes and streams."

TURNING TO SUBSTITUTES

Environmental officials said the PCBs had been found to cause reproduction defects, cancer, deaths in fish, birds and mammals.

"I think the facts are telling us something," Mr. Reed said.

"They are telling us emphatically that our rivers and streams are sick. We don't need research to tell us that our rivers and lakes are sick. We can feel it on the nose, see it in the water."

Besides the Great Lakes, high levels of PCBs have been found in the Lake Champlain, Hudson, Fox, Housatonic and Connecticut Rivers of the Atlantic Coast; the Penobscot, Kennebec and Ohio Rivers of the Midwest, the Columbia in the Northwest, the Sacramento in the West, the Rio Grande and other Gulf Coast streams and even the Tahoe in Alaska, Reed said.

He said he was part of the research effort of the Lake Michigan Toxic Substances Committee for "a national ban on all domestic and imported PCBs destined for use other than in transformers and capacitors" and that use in transformers and capacitors be "immediately and critically reviewed."

AMBASSADOR ASSIGNMENTS CANCELED BY PCBS

Japan: Following of about a thousand people (Yuchos) in a contaminated batch of a feed transfer fluid in a rice oil production plant.

Italy: Occurrence of PCBs in milk from cows given feed treated with herbicides that had been diluted with PCBs.

April, August 1970, U.S.A.: Occurrence of PCBs in cattle from counties found that had been exposed in other contact with PCB-related products.

December 1970, U.S.A.: Occurrence of PCBs in chicken following consumption from PCB-contaminated packaging.

July 1971, U.S.A.: Contamination of salmon feed (byproducts of meat processing), as a result of a leak in heating equipment used for pretreatment.

August 1971, U.S.A.: Occurrence of PCBs in Quaker oats which had been fed PCB-coated baking pressure (vacuum indicators).

July 17, U.S.A.: Discovery of PCBs in food wrappings due to recycling of cardboard paper in the production of paper pulp.

From: "Responsible and Responsible Trade Use and Control," OECD, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), Paris, 1974.

[From the Milwaukee Journal, Aug. 11, 1975]

CITIZENS ASK DDT TOLERANCE

Residents along Lake Poygan on the Mississippi River have been cleared to action by the virtual collapse of the fishing industry there due to excessive levels of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), industrial chemicals that pose a potential threat to human health.

The residents have formed the Citizens for Preservation of Lake Poygan. But they're not just demanding a halt to any more discharges of PCBs. They also have decided to attack persistent sewage outflow of fish. Fred, the dumping of sewage and manure from the river front, for them, is dependable control of siltation and an abundance of weeds and fish that interfere with the spawning of game fish.

Environmental protection is a nice principle that generally pays the rent of its keeper. But it frequently runs afoul and upsets pocketbooks of the lake's neighbors. Interesting are disputes. It takes great citizen action to do something about environmental protection. And that too often does not occur until people become direct, personal victims of unchecked pollution.

[From the Milwaukee Journal, Nov. 11, 1975]

DEMOCRATS LOOK NEW AS PRIMES

(By Colby Wilkerson)

Chicago.—The enthusiasm of the 3,000 delegates to the Democratic Midwestern Conference here Saturday and Sunday was unmistakable. Democrats can't wait to be tested against the Republicans in the 1976 election of their presidential candidate.

Endorsing U. S. Senator Adlai Stevenson of Illinois for the Democratic presidential nomination, Wisconsin Democratic Party Chairman Robert Cornfeld said, "Adlai Stevenson is the only candidate who has been tested and not found wanting."

Pulling no punches, Cornfeld said, Democrats "have to be prepared to run against Ford, Rockefeller, Reagan, Carter, Shapp, Udall, Bayh, Harris, Church, Jackson, Wallace, Shriver, Humphrey, Javits, Mathias, McGovern, Bentsen, Stevenson, Brown of California, Brown of Ohio, Hartke, Burch, Tydings, Mondale, Eagleton, Bayh, Hughes, Symington, Moss, Metcalf, Montoya, Church, Hatfield, Bumpers, Fulbright, Kennedy, Proxmire, Nelson, Haskell, Abourezk, Humphrey