PARTIAL TRANSCRIPTION OF RADIO PROGRAM

STATION KMOX

MONDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1977 AT APPROXIMATELY 8:30 A.M.

"MORNING MAGAZINE - PROFITS & PRINCIPLES"

MODERATOR: ....a beautiful case history of principles and profits. Barry Commoner says it is not enough for Monsanto to stop producing PCB's. Idealistically speaking, he says, the Company should try to undo the environmental damage caused by the chemical.

BARRY COMMONER: I think so, but I think it's probably a responsibility that might bankrupt Monsanto. The fact that PCB's are now spread everywhere in the environment, in every living thing as far as we can tell from available measurements, is a responsibility that they somehow have to meet. The way things stand now, that responsibility, which was not met by Monsanto, and in fact, the production of PCB rendered them a good deal of profit. All of that difficulty is now a burden on the rest of us. (There's burden that the rest of us is carrying (?).)

MODERATOR: Hanley of Monsanto replied this way.

J. W. HANLEY: It's an unfortunate event because there's no question but what the production of PCB's did harm to the environment. It was done unknowingly, but that doesn't excuse it. It's unfortunate that it happened, but when I examine the conduct of the Company, I am proud of the way they dealt with limited information.

MODERATOR: One answer to avoid the PCB problem again, says Hanley, is more testing of products before they are marketed.

HANLEY: The guy that's got the responsibility for the safety of our product is Monsanto. It is not the FDA, it is not the EPA. We cannot and have no interest in dodging the ultimate responsibility for the safety of our products, our processes and the effects (?). How much testing should we do? We should do whatever is necessary to provide assurance that what we are doing is right and it seems purely and really as simple as that. No one else can set that standard as high as we can set it for ourselves and that's the way we conduct our business.

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MODERATOR: And that, says Anna Navarro, Director of Social Responsibility at Monsanto, is one of the lessons of PCB's. Good ethics, she claims, is good business. And she points to the millions of dollars of lawsuits filed against the firm on PCB's.

A. NAVARRO: We realize though that the social consequences of staying in that business were such that it was no longer profitable business. We ought to get out.

MODERATOR: It is more than time, she says, for business practices to come into step with ecological concerns.
