Monsanto
CHEMICALS LTD.

FROM (LOCATION) Ruabon

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(1) cc for RH March
(2) File M. Summary p. June

Business Situation

1. At the B.I.T. meeting on 15th June, Progil/Prodelec and Caffaro stated that they had not changed their policies on PCBs.

2. Discussion at the Swedish Natural Environment Protection Board revealed that the PCB law became effective in April 1972. At present, licence has only been granted for use of PCB in high power (> 2 KVAR) capacitors. Evidence that PCB products like Aroclor 1016 would not accumulate might enable the law to be relaxed to permit selected PCB products in smaller capacitors, but at present the law is unsophisticated.

3. At discussion with environmental and health authorities in Finland it was stated that legislation against PCB was unlikely, provided the industry continued to act responsibly. The authorities are impressed by the steps taken by Monsanto and their major customer, Nokia, to minimise the pollution effects of PCB products.

4. Presentations of the environmental aspects of PCBs and Monsanto efforts to counter these were made to senior representatives of the following companies:

A.C.E.C.	Belgium
Liljeholmens	Sweden
Nokia	Finland
Philips	Netherlands
Brittains	U.K.

Environmental/Technical

Five ponds have now been established at Ruabon for PCB accumulation experiments. These are being stocked with fish in readiness for the introduction of Aroclor 1254, 1242 and 1016. One non-PCB product will be added to the fifth pond when a sample is received from St. Louis.

Inveresk Research International have established marine and fresh-water aquaria to study the pattern of accumulation of PCBs and are now ready to proceed with the first phase. This will be

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to find working levels for PCBs in the aquaria at which obvious harmful effects do not occur. Subsequent experiments will be designed to find accumulation patterns resulting from introducing Aroclors 1242 and 1254.

A tentative procedure for the determination of homologue composition in chlorinated biphenyl products similar to Aroclor 1242 was proposed at the B.I.T. meeting on June 15th. Previous discussion with Bayer and Progil had established that the method, which was based on capillary column GLC with MS identification of peaks, would be acceptable. A sample exchange programme has been initiated between Monsanto, Bayer, Progil/Prodelec, and Caffaro.

An incinerator which looks capable of destroying PCBs has been established at Tampere, Finland, near the Nokia capacitor plant. This unit is capable of handling solid wastes, via a two stage process. Temperature and residence time characteristics look suitable and it has provision for flue gas scrubbing. We will run trials using Aroclor and check for destruction of PCBs before finally advising Nokia to use it.

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