New York Times 10/6/76

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 5 (AP)—Monsanto Industrial Chemicals Company, the only American maker of the polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) dielectric insulating fluids, announced Tuesday it would quit producing the fluids by late next year.

Earle H. Haribison Jr., general manager of Monsanto's specialty chemicals division, said the company would complete distribution of all inventories and withdraw from the market by not later than Oct. 31, 1977.

N.Y. Daily News 10/6/76

Firm to Quit Making PCBs

St. Louis (Combined Dispatches) — Monsanto Industrial Chemical Co., the only domestic manufacturer of the controversial PCB fluids, announced yesterday that it would terminate production and distribution of the product by Oct. 31, 1977.

In Washington, the Environmental Protection Agency said it welcomed the action, although "Contamination will continue to be a problem due to the millions of PCBs already in" water bodies, earth, air "and in wildlife and human tissue." In lab tests, the agency noted, PCBs have produced "tumors in mammals."

PCB, standing for polychlorinated biphenyl dielectric insulating fluids, is a stable, fire-resistant chemical that is widely used in transformers and capacitors.

Monsanto said it could have withdrawn from manufacture and distribution before the target date but that makers of electric transformers and capacitors had said they would be unable to convert to other materials any earlier.