

Jack T. Garrett, St. Louis

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Pydraul 135 at Oxelosunds Jarnverk

J. Haggart
Brussels

I have been asked by Mr. Elmer P. Wheeler to answer the call report dated September 2, 1969, that you sent to him. Pydraul 135, as you know, contains Aroclors. I have attached a summary of the animal toxicity data on the subject product.

It appears that Oxelosunds has a cooling system that is probably saturated with the Pydraul fluid components. At about 25°C this means that their circulating cooling system can contain 200 ppb (parts per billion) of dissolved Aroclor 1242. This concentration is not acutely toxic to most adult fish. It is possible that this material is chronically toxic to fish and other aquatic species. The swan and duck mentioned in the call report probably consumed the Pydraul in full strength while foraging in the lake. Birds of this type forage by diving to the bottom of shallow bodies of water for food. If the Pydraul is not removed or reduced, there will be additional deaths of this type.

I would suggest that the company involved begin to reverse the Pydraul buildup by trapping and removing the Pydraul. Incidentally, they might profit by this system if the recovered Pydraul can be reused. A collection sump with the necessary pumps should be installed probably in the basement of the factory. If the buildup in the cooling lake needs to be removed, it can be done by suction from the lowest points in the lake. This will not necessarily relieve the duck and swan toxicity problem since the bottom slimes and mud are probably saturated with Aroclor 1242. After the sump is installed and the Pydraul is being routinely removed, the problem in the lake will diminish slowly as the Pydraul dissolves and uncontaminated solids cover over the present bottom slimes.

I wish there was a magic solution to the problem where the effects can be quickly reversed. Unless the company is willing to empty the lake and remove the Pydraul along with about six inches of the bottom silt, there can be trouble for some time.

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c.c. W. R. Richard

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