xc: D. Moore
FILE - PCB Misc

SEP 11 1980

Monsanto

FROM (NAME—LOCATION—PHONE) J. H. Craddock - G3WA - 4-8410

DATE : September 11, 1980

SUBJECT : PROPOSED NEWPORT EPIDEMIOLOGY STUDY - PCB's

REFERENCE :

cc. W. Gaffey
R. Nelson

TO :
D. R. Bishop - A3NB
C. F. Callis - B3CA
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~~J. G. Ortiz - E2ND~~
G. Roush - A2SA
R. A. Stohr - B3NJ

Dr. Gaffey has discussed the question of performing an epidemiology study on Newport workers in the PCB area with Professor Acheson of the British Medical Research Council. They mutually agreed that such a study would probably not produce meaningful data.

A copy of Dr. Gaffey's monthly summary describing his discussion with Acheson is attached for your information.

J. H. Craddock

jmr

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EPIDEMIOLOGY

MAJOR RESULT: *Support Monsanto products by providing epidemiology studies and mortality experience relating to past exposure.*

General:

1. Acrylonitrile. In early September the EPA's Scientific Advisory Board will meet to consider whether AN should be listed as a carcinogen. Dr. Roush and Dr. Gaffey conferred with Sir Richard Doll on possible strategies for convincing the Board of the weakness of the human epidemiological evidence. Subsequently, Dr. Gaffey assisted the AN Task Group of CMA in preparing a presentation to be made to the Board; he will represent Monsanto at the hearing. The CMA presentation will be a critique of the DuPont epidemiology study on which EPA's case is based, and the presentation in summary form of a British study which does not confirm the DuPont findings. The DuPont representative at the CMA meeting concurred in this approach. It appears likely that this presentation will seriously compromise EPA's position that the human evidence is positive.

Dr. Gaffey conferred with Dr. Sidney Pell of DuPont on the possibility of (a) obtaining additional information on the DuPont cohort which might indicate what other exposures existed in the group, and (b) obtaining enough detail on DuPont's method of classifying exposures to enable Monsanto to develop comparable classifications for workers in the Decatur plant. Dr. Pell indicated that he would be able to assist us in both these areas.

2. PCBs. Professor Donald Acheson of the British Medical Research Council has been trying to identify a cohort of persons occupationally exposed to PCBs in the United Kingdom, including those at the Monsanto Newport plant. Dr. Gaffey conferred with him on the feasibility of using the Newport plant.

They agreed that the plant cohort was too small by itself to generate meaningful data, and there did not appear to be other such groups in the U.K. with which the Newport cohort could be merged. Professor Acheson expressed interest in the results of any PCB studies that Monsanto might conduct in the U.S., and offered his assistance in dealing with the British authorities if Monsanto elected also to study the Newport cohort.

PCB-ARCH-EXT0380019