Monsanto

FROM (NAME—LOCATION—PHONE) J. H. Craddock - B3NA (4-4764)

DATE : November 17, 1983

cc. E. D. Malone

SUBJECT : Weekly Highlights - PCBs

REFERENCE :

TO : W. B. Papageorge

- The environmentalist/industry consensus rule proposed to EPA to regulate incidental PCBs is on target for publication by the agency as a Proposed Rule about December 1. The rule cleared several hurdles in various EPA departments and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) reviews this week. Mr. Ruckleshaus is scheduled to receive the proposal for review next week. CMA still has concerns about EPA's justification and possible precedents established, although industry proposed and favors the rule.

- The Kearny plant has obtained preliminary test results indicating soil contamination by high levels of PCB at the plant site. The contamination is due to disposal practices in the mid-1960's for old heat transfer fluids. However, earlier efforts in 1978-1979 time frame to remove contaminated soil caused by the 1960 disposal had been believed satisfactory. Further actions and planning is in progress to determine the extent and degree of contamination and determine appropriate steps to resolve concerns.

- MPP and New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) are in final negotiation discussions regarding a consent decree to contain PCB contamination at the Delaware River plant. MPP expects to begin construction of a slurry wall system before December 1. New Jersey DEP and Monsanto may conduct a joint press conference on the Delaware River project soon.

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