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PCB oil on way out

DES MOINES — The Iowa Department of Environmental Quality has begun disposing of 17,000 gallons of waste oil contaminated with polychlorinated biphenol (PCB), a toxic chemical that can cause cancer, birth defects and death. The contaminated oil was discovered in mid-March, before any of it was sprayed on roads where it was to be used to control dust. Monsanto Chemical Co., the manufacturer of PCB which is used as a liquid electrical insulator in transformers, has announced plans to discontinue its manufacture late this year.