Pcn - Aroclor

HEARINGS SET FOR MERCURY, BERYLLIUM, ASBESTOS

Public hearings on proposed emission standards for asbestos, beryllium, and mercury will be held in three cities early in 1972. The Environmental Protection Agency's hearing schedule is:

Jan. 18—New York City: beginning at 10:00 a.m. in Courtroom #2, Room 461, 1 Federal Plaza;

Feb. 1—Kansas City: beginning at 10:00 a.m. in Room 214, The Midtown Building, 1735 Baltimore St.;

Feb. 15—Los Angeles: beginning at 10:00 a.m. in Room 1501, U.S. Courthouse, 312 N. Spring St.

Persons wishing to make a statement are to file a notice of intent at least 15 days before the hearing date, and submit five copies of their statement at least 10 days in advance. Notices and statements should be addressed to the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, Attention: *Presiding Officer, Hazardous* Emission Standards Hearing, Room 17-70, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Md. 20852.

EASTIN IS EPA CONSULTANT FOR INDUSTRIAL AFFAIRS

Maurice R. Eastin, former president of Esterline Corp. of New York City, has been named EPA's consultant for industrial affairs.

In announcing the appointment, EPA Administrator William D. Ruckelshaus said, "Mr. Eastin will serve the important function of explaining our agency's *role and programs* to industry. He will also give our agency a better appreciation and understanding of the problems that industry encounters in the environmental field." Eastin will report directly to the Administrator.

NORDIC COUNTRIES TO STUDY HEAVY METALS

A cooperative scientific and technical research group from Nordic countries plans a joint study of environmental damage caused by heavy metals. The group, called Nordforsk, has added vanadium to its list of metals deserving close attention. Others to be studied include arsenic, cadmium, copper, lead, mercury and zinc.

Nordforsk scientists say vanadium pollution is believed caused largely by burning oil from Venezuela and the Middle East, and they feel the metal might become a "major poison threat."

Curbs Continued

MONSANTO RELEASES PCB FIGURES; DESCRIBES CUTBACK, CONTROL PROGRAM

The Monsanto Company has released figures on the production and sale of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB) from 1960 through estimated 1971 to provide insight on the material's impact on the environment.

Closed-system electrical uses ranged from 11,000 tons per year to 20,000 tons per year during the period, according to figures released to the U.S. Department of Commerce.

The report also shows Monsanto voluntarily reduced its nonelectrical sales of PCB from the high of 16,000 tons in 1970 to 4,400 tons in 1971. Further substantial reductions will be accomplished in 1972, the company said.

Monsanto is the only American manufacturer of PCB. The material, which is persistent, is used predominantly in closed systems. Some of this, however, has escaped accidentally to the environment.

C. P. Cunningham, managing director of Monsanto Industrial Chemicals Co., an operating unit of Monsanto, said: "As part of our control program, the data were originally prepared for the Federal PCB Joint Task Force and other concerned scientists for use on a confidential basis so scientists can properly evaluate the . . . impact on the environment."

Monsanto released the figures publicly "because scientists have continued to express a need for the data to make a proper estimate of how much PCB might be in the environment. We also believe the figures will inform the public about Monsanto's positive actions to limit the sale of PCB to confined applications," *the company executive said.*

"Now that the figures are public information," Mr. Cunningham added, "we are confident both the scientific community and the public press will interpret the data properly. These are production and sales figures only. It should be clearly understood that all this material is not in the environment."

"For example," Mr. Cunningham said, "over 80 per cent of all sales in the past 12 years have been for closed-system electrical uses. It would be a completely false and irresponsible conclusion to say all PCB produced is in the environment. Much of the material is still contained in sealed electrical equipment where it acts as a *fire-resistant safety fluid, protecting human lives and* property from the danger of fire and explosion.

"Monsanto continues its program to control the uses and prevent the release of PCB into the environment," Mr. Cunningham added. "To date, we have cut off all sales to paints, plasticizers, sealants, adhesives and all other open-system uses. We are receiving used PCB from customers for regeneration or safe disposal. And we are engaged in an all-out research effort to develop less persistent forms of PCB or suitable products which retain the fire safety features of PCB. We call on other producers, worldwide, to join in this effort."

PRODUCTION AND SALES—POLYCHLORINATED BIPHENYLS (PCB)
MONSANTO INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS COMPANY (SHORT TONS)

YEAR	U.S. PRODUCTION	DOMESTIC SALES: Electrical* Insulating Liquids Uses	DOMESTIC SALES: All** Other Uses	U.S. EXPORT SALES All Uses
1971 (Est)	20236	16417	4491	4938
1970	42527	30268	16263	6826
1969	36194	18564	15434	6712
1968	41427	20558	11990	6618
1967	37655	20387	10848	4062
1966	32975	16997	10647	3428
1965	30249	16203	9695	3117
1964	25417	13768	8688	2048
1963	23367	11448	7610	1824
1962	20986	11883	7338	1909
1961	20333	11108	7961	3076
1960	20786	12444	8163	1037

*Closed Systems—Transformers and Capacitors.
**Including Heat-Transfer Systems, Hydraulics/Lubricants, Plasticizers.