

DATE July 17, 1980

SUBJECT 2,3,7,8 TCDD Study Proposal in Subhuman Primates
Wright State University and University of Cincinnati

REFERENCE

TO George Roush - A2SA

The referenced proposal contains three study outlines.

- 1) Excretion/distribution of 14C TCDD following a single oral dose (cost \$68,682).
- 2) Long term (7 month) excretion/distribution study with 14C TCDD administered in non-toxic and acutely toxic doses (cost \$301,361).
- 3) Chronic (24 month) toxicity/reproduction study (cost \$824,444).

Dr. John Ramsey (Dow) has been in contact with the Wright State people on several occasions concerning the study but did not participate directly in the experimental design. The proposal was originally submitted to Hoffman LaRoche who then forwarded it to Dow for their review. What we have is probably a second draft.

Ramsey indicated that the studies had not yet been initiated and that Dow has not firmly committed money for their support. They are in the process of preparing suggestions for revision of the first two study proposals and Ramsey indicated that Dow was prepared to financially support these studies if the revisions were accepted. They had not reached a decision on support of the third study.

Having reviewed the proposals it is apparent that some modifications are required. Of the points of concern Ramsey and I were in general agreement. Generally the changes envisioned should not have a material impact on the study cost. Basically they should decrease the number of samples for analytical characterization and increase the number of excreta samples for 14C TCDD excretion determinations.

I believe we should determine in principle if Monsanto would benefit from supporting these studies. If we are willing to support them then a specific recommendation containing suggested revisions should be prepared.

Basically in the past we have maintained that the only 2,3,7,8 TCDD exposure in our workers was related to 2,4,5-T production.

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The chlorophenols, including pentachlorophenol, and the PCB's are believed to be free of 2,3,7,8 TCDD. Thus, our direct interest in 2,3,7,8 TCDD is limited. However, our involvement in the Agent orange litigation and the allegation that tetra-chlorodioxins, though not clearly 2,3,7,8, were present in the Sturgeon chlorophenol spill argue for our participation in this project. One third of the projected costs of the first two proposals is approximately \$125,000 over a twelve to eighteen month period.

It is not probable that results will be obtained from these studies showing clearly that the Rhesus monkey is more sensitive to TCDD than man. That would be the most useful result. We need to determine how other results could be technically useful and what the political consequences of participating or not participating might be.

I can formulate a more definitive recommendation and discuss it with whoever you suggest.

PLW

Paul L. Wright

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