

December 4, 1969

G. Fred Lee, Professor
Water Chemistry Laboratory
The University of Wisconsin
Madison, Wisconsin 53706

Dear Professor Lee:

Joe Metcalf has kindly given me the copy of your report to the Wisconsin Conservation Division concerning the chlorinated contaminants in the Milwaukee River and your review of chlorinated biphenyls in natural waters.

As our Mr. Wheeler has told you previously, Monsanto is very concerned about the reported presence of polychlorinated biphenyls in conjunction with persistent chlorinated hydrocarbon residues. I would like to congratulate you on the report and proposed publication. They represent the most precise discussion of the problem that we have seen.

On page four of your article to be submitted for publication, you refer to the work of Dr. Meigs reported in the April, 1954 Journal of the American Medical Association. I thought you might be interested in copies of the exchange of correspondence which I had with Dr. Meigs at that time. To our knowledge there have not been cases reported in the literature since Dr. Meigs' article which support the comment that cases of chloracne have been reported repeatedly. I would like to think that our efforts in instructing users to take precautions to avoid exposure have been successful and have lead to generally favorable industrial experience with these materials.

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It is true that our earlier technical bulletins have indicated the possible use of the Aroclors as evaporation retardants for pesticides. In view of the present circumstances, perhaps we are fortunate that such proposed application never developed to any extent as a use for the Aroclors. Interestingly, this comment is applicable to many of the proposed or suggested possible uses for the Aroclors as presented in our technical and sales literature.

Again, may I express my appreciation for the opportunity to study the excellent report of your findings and your objective review of the literature.

Sincerely,

R. Emmet Kelly, M. D.
Medical Director

REK:ju

c.c. J. S. Metcalf