Monsanto

FROM (NAME & LOCATION) Dept. of Medicine & Environmental Health - David C. Musch

DATE: May 26, 1978

SUBJECT: Epidemiology Study of Polychlorinated Biphenyl Workers

REFERENCE: Project Schedule

TO Jay R. G. Ortiz-E2NE

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This communication is in response to your request to Judy Killeen for an update concerning the progress of the epidemiological study of the Krummrich employees. I am working on this study as of May 24, 1978, having accepted a summer position as an epidemiologist for Monsanto. I will be working with Judy Killeen on this study.

The epidemiological study being conducted should be completed at the latest by the end of August. If few obstacles are encountered, the study will be completed earlier. The project schedule is as follows:

I. Data Collection: 2-3 weeks

DMEH has obtained the work histories of workers at the Krummrich plant. Missing work histories remain to be recovered, as well as some information which was deleted during copying.

II. Development of An Occupational Title Listing: 1 week

a. Recording of each PCB-related job title which appears in the work histories will be completed.

b. Job titles will then be classified according to PCB exposure with the aid of the plant and corporate industrial hygienists.

c. These classifications will be reviewed by several people who are knowledgeable in the manufacturing of PCB and the related personnel functions. A plant visit will be scheduled to obtain this information.

Completed 6/2/78

III. Selection of a Study Cohort: 1 week

All male Krummrich wage employees who were exposed to PCB for at least six months will form the study cohort.

IV. Mortality Follow-Up: In progress

a. DMEH has searched the pension files and is now reviewing the medical benefits files for mortality data.

b. Those workers whose vital status remains unknown will be followed by means of plant visits, telephone calls, and other means in order to discover their status.

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c. Death certificates will be obtained from the plant, pension files, and the state health departments.

d. DMEH will have each death certificate coded by a skilled nosologist for the underlying cause of death.

V. Coding of Data: 1 week

The work histories of all PCB-exposed workers will be coded and keypunched in a standardized format.

VI. Data Analysis, Interpretation, and Reporting: 2-3 weeks

a. DMEH will analyze the data using either a proportionate or standard mortality analysis, depending on the size of the study population.

b. DMEH will write up the study in a publishable format including background, methodology, results and interpretation.

VII. Review of the Final Draft: 2 weeks

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