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THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

NEW YORK 10021

October 30, 1973 NOV 2 1973

R. Emmet Kelly, M.D.
Medical Director
Monsanto Company
800 N. Lindbergh Blvd.
St. Louis, Mo. 63166

Dear Dr. Kelly:

I am writing in response to your letter of October 5, 1973. I am sorry to be so long in replying but I am now at the Rockefeller University and your letter only arrived here this past week.

To answer your question specifically I did not state that the PCBs are carcinogenic. To quote directly from the paper as read:

"...we have previously shown that the PCBs evoke an induction response of hepatic cytochrome P-450 more reminiscent of that elicited by polycyclic hydrocarbons... Previous studies by Conney and others have shown that polycyclic hydrocarbon carcinogens such as 3-methylcholanthrene are potent inducers of aryl hydrocarbon hydroxylase in the skin and liver. The potency of PCB induction of this enzyme in the liver prompted us to study PCB induction of this enzyme in skin..."

These are the pertinent quotes related to PCB in my paper. I gladly support your writing to Skin and Allergy News concerning this rather unfortunate misquoting though I must tell you that this is not an uncommon occurrence with that publication.

I am particularly distressed about this because of the wholehearted cooperation which I have received from Monsanto and particularly Mr. William Papageorge during these studies.

I trust that this clarifies our findings and hope that the matter can be corrected as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,

David R. Bickers, M.D.