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Gene Wilde - General Offices

February 13, 1967

EVIL PUBLICITY ON
CHLORINATED BIPHENYLS

R. M. Parks
W. F. Waychoff
G. R. Buchanan
JFQ Research - R. E. Keller

R. Emmet Kelly, M. D.

Here is a brief summary of what we discussed during our meeting February 8 in your office.

We reviewed the information we have received so far on the adverse publicity in Europe on polychlorinated biphenyls. For the record, we have received the following published information.

> Letter from Dunmar Widmark of the Institute of Analytical Chemistry, University of Stockholm, dated December 29, about his Mr. Jensen defining some of the unknowns in his analytical work as polychlorinated biphenyls. Attached to this letter was a report on the presence of polychlorinated biphenyls at residue analysis of biological samples written by Mr. Jensen and Dunmar Widmark.
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> Dave Wood of our Brussels office sent us the LKB press release of January 10, 1967, about the Swedish success in detecting the polychlorinated biphenyl.
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> A memo written by Dave Wood dated January 26 summarizing his visit with Jensen.
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> The January 30, 1967, issue of Chemical Engineering, page 52, makes comment about the work on polychlorinated biphenyls in Sweden. This was the first published information in the U. S.
>
> December 15, 1966, the New Scientist Magazine, carried an article about a new chemical hazard, also reporting the work that had been done by the University of Stockholm.

Essentially, all of these reports covered the same items.

Due to the importance of the Aroclor products to the Organic Division, we decided on the following plan of action. Since all of the action required falls within the realm of your authority, you accepted the responsibility to follow through on the following:

MONS 097089

1. Prepare a statement or letter for use by Monsanto with customers who inquire about this publicity.

2. You will talk to Dan Forrestal on preparing a press release and hold it until such a time that we feel as though it should be released.

3. Give some thought to how we would approach this problem on a toxicological and pharmacological basis.

4. Talk to the NCR people after we define the person to contact.

5. Arrange for contact with Bayer and Prodelec.

Two questions that kept coming back to our minds during the meeting were that in all of the propaganda published, there has been nothing about the levels that have been found particularly in the air and no one has defined anything about what level would be considered harmful. Bob Keller brought out the fact that there must have been other products found in this complete analysis and he would be interested in knowing what other things were found.

All of these actions need immediate attention with the exception, of course, of the gathering of the toxicological and pharmacological information.

Please do let me know if there is anything I can do or any way I can help in getting these actions started and getting our information together so that we can make sure our Aroclor business is not affected by this evil publicity.

Gene Wilde

/bjk