56-52A AIR/WATER POLLUTION
REPORT
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NEMA ANNOUNCES PROPOSAL TO ELIMINATE ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARD OF ASKAREL/PCB

Procedure to insure proper handling and disposal of askarel — a fluid used as insulation in sealed electrical capacitors and transformers which contains polychlorinated biphenyls harmful to the environment -- has been published by National Electrical Manufacturers Association in the form of a Standards Proposal. Proposal will ultimately become American National Standard Guidelines (an ANSI Standard). Environmental Protection Agency last May recommended discontinuing use of PCBs except in electrical capacitors and transformers where substitutes had been shown to greatly increase chance of fire and explosion.

Standards Proposal, developed by the Monsanto Co., sole U.S. producer of PCBs, and NEMA, representing producers of transformers and capacitors, includes: (1) capacitor guidelines covering plant housekeeping, employe safety, control of water effluents, scrap disposal procedures and labeling; and (2) transformer guidelines covering safety precautions; transport container markings; receiving, handling and storing of askarel; analytical procedures; and disposal.

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