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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

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OFFICE OF
PESTICIDES AND TOXIC SUBSTANCESMEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: TB Project No. 8-0861. EPA ID No. 063001
Pentachlorophenol: Comment on Results of Fish
Analysis for Dioxins and Furans.

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The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Bay St. Louis Laboratory (Aubry E. Dupuy, Chief, Environmental Chemistry Laboratory; FTS 494-3217) received from the State of Mississippi (for the determination of dioxins/furans) two fish samples collected downstream from a wood-treatment plant. The analyses were performed at Environmental Monitoring Systems Laboratory, Research Triangle Park (RTP).

Results of the two samples (F-245 and F-246) are shown in Table 1. Chlorinated dibenzodioxins and dibenzofurans are reported at levels well above the minimum levels of detection.

Several of these isomers are associated with pentachlorophenol or are environmentally derived from wood-treatment effluents.

Toxicology Branch considers the two results on two samples inadequate data on which to initiate discussions of toxicological significance.

On the basis of the results, however, we recommend additional sampling and reporting of the chlorinated dioxins and furans in fish from the location of concern.