

MEMORANDUM
VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
Southwest Regional Office

355 Deadmore Street

Abingdon, VA 24210

SUBJECT: **Bluestone River** PCB Source Investigation Stakeholder Survey
FROM: Craig Lott, PCB Contact; rclott@deq.virginia.gov ; 276-676-4821
DATE: March 8, 2005

BACKGROUND INFO: PCBs were recently found at levels in fish in the Bluestone River that prompted the Virginia Department of Health to issue a fish consumption advisory for the River. PCBs were manufactured mainly by one company in the USA. Although the manufacture of PCB oil has been illegal since the late-1970s, PCBs are still legally in use today, and enter the environment through spills and leakage. PCBs are oily mixtures made of 209 different chemicals. PCB oils have properties that were used by many different industries such as hydraulic fluid in heavy machinery, pumps, electricity transformers, plastics, paints, or light ballasts. Historically, when a transformer having PCB oil would need repair or replacement, the oil might be poured out, used to spray roads for dust suppression, or mixed with heating oil and burned. PCB chemicals get into the tissues of our bodies and affect our health. When PCBs are burned, the ash formed is thousands times more toxic than the original PCB oil. When the oil reaches the soil in our watershed, it ends up washing into our streams and rivers. In our streams it sinks to the bottom unlike other oils which float, and sticks to the sediments and bugs, cobbles, and plants. These are then eaten by fish which end up with many times more oil in them than the sediment. If you have any stories or sites where you are concerned about PCB oil having been spilled or poured out, please contact me or complete the form and return it to Craig Lott, PCB source contact, Department of Environmental Quality.

Your Name, Title, and Phone # : _____

Email address: _____

Property Owners Name: _____

Property Location: _____

Is property on sewer, septic, or treatment plant? _____ Does it have a waste or wastewater discharge permit? _____ If yes, Permit Nos (if applicable): _____

To the best of your knowledge, please provide answers to the following questions:

1. Have there ever been any PCB oil related activities on this property? _____

2. When did PCB related activity begin at this property? _____

3. Please, list any known former uses or events that may have occurred at this site (be specific about activities that may have left PCB oil, hydraulic oil, batteries, or contamination in soil or water).

4. Did this property transfer ownership or did an event occur, which may have required an environmental assessment or PCB related sampling and testing on the property or site?

If so, please enclose or forward documentation and maps indicating locations of sampling and levels of the results (include results which may indicate the absence of PCB contamination).

5. Were PCBs, or materials containing PCBs, ever used on-this property in any of the following equipment or activities?

<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
___	___	transformers
___	___	capacitors
___	___	generators
___	___	heat extractors/exchangers
___	___	pesticides
___	___	road treatment for dust control
___	___	oil fired boilers
___	___	oil heated presses
___	___	gas compressors
___	___	other (plasticizers, heavy or mining equipment with hydraulics, emulsion oils, lubricants, etc.)

a. If power generators were used on-site to generate power for the property, what was the duration of use and the power source? _____

b. If oil fired boilers were used on-the property, was waste oil ever burned? _____

c. If natural gas compressor stations were operating on this property, when? _____

6. If PCBs were used, handled, stored, or in some manner reclaimed on-the property:

a. During what time periods were they used? _____

b. How and where were they stored? _____

c. Were any releases or leaks detected of oil or ash? _____

d. Do analytical data exist for any release event(s)? _____

e. How and where were PCBs or PCB contaminated materials disposed of? _____

7. Does the property have a wastewater discharge permitted by DEQ _____, or by municipal pretreatment program _____?

a. Have PCBs ever been detected in wastewater? _____

d. Have PCBs ever been detected in sludge or other? _____

If yes, what was the period, duration, PCB concentration, and follow-up action taken? _____

8. Were PCBs ever detected in storm water discharges? _____

If yes, what was the period, duration, PCB concentration, and follow-up action taken? _____

9. Does the property contain sinkhole(s)? _____, If so, did they receive refuse or have they been filled in? _____

10. Does the property contain or connect to land which was previously or currently used as a landfill or dump? _____

If yes: a. What was the period of operation? _____

b. Was the landfill/dump a permitted facility? _____

c. What is the location of the landfill? _____

d. What materials were disposed of? _____

f. Are PCB data available for the landfill, including groundwater, storm water, or soil? _____

11. Do you know of other information regarding this watershed (Virginia or West Virginia) which may help track PCB contaminated soils or waters? _____

Selected Names for PCB-Containing Substances

Table 1. Trade and common names for PCB-containing materials (not all-inclusive)

ALC	ASK	Aceclor	Adkarel,
Apirorio	Aroclor	Asbestol	Ascarele
Askarel *	Bakola 131	Capacitor 21	Caswell no 672A
Chlophen	Chlorextol	Clophen	Cloresil
Chlorinol	Clorinal	Clorphen	DK
Delor	Diaclor	Diconal	Ducanol
Dykanol	EEC-18	Educrel	Elemex
Elinol	Eucarel	Fenclor	Fenchlor
Gechlореeredifenyл	Hydol	Hyrol	Hyvol
Inclor	Inerteen	Kanegafuchi	Kaneclor
Kanechlor	Kennechlor	MCS 1489	Magvar
Montar	Monter	Nepolin	No-Flamol
Non-Flammable Liquid	Phenochlor	Phenoclor	Plastivar
Pydraul	Pyralene	Pyranol (GE)	Pyroclor
Saf-T-Kuhl	Santotherm	Santotherm FR	Santovac 1 and 2
Solvol	Sovtol	Sovol	Therminol **

* Generic for a PCB and solvent mixture.

** Therminol products now formulated in the U.S. do not contain PCBs.