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Descripton Notes

In re Notice of Intent to Cancel Registrations for 2,4,5-T and Silvex

Docket No. 438

MOTION OF THE DOW CHEMICAL COMPANY TO SET PREHEARING CONFERENCE WITHIN 10 DAYS AND TO BEGIN CANCELLATION HEARINGS ON OR BEFORE JUNE 4, 1979

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April 23, 1979

In re Notice of Intent to Cancel Registrations for 2,4,5-T and Silvex

Docket No. 438

MOTION OF THE DOW CHEMICAL COMPANY
TO SET PREHEARING CONFERENCE WITHIN 10 DAYS
AND TO BEGIN CANCELLATION HEARINGS ON OR BEFORE
JUNE 4, 1979

The Dow Chemical Company, a registrant for 2,4,5-T and silvex products, previously filed a request for a cancellation hearing and objections, with respect to each and every registration and use subject to the notices of intent to cancel published on March 15, 1979 in the Federal Register.

44 Fed. Reg. 15893, 15917. In order to move cancellation proceedings forward as rapidly as possible, Dow is today requesting immediate reference of these proceedings to an Administrative Law Judge. Dow hereby moves that a prehearing conference be set in these proceedings within 10 days, and that the cancellation hearings be set to begin no later than June 4, 1979.

Each of the registrations subject to the notices of cancellation is also subject to the emergency suspension orders issued by EPA on March 1, 1979. Thus, every product at issue in these proceedings has been and remains off the market for major uses.

Moreover, because of seasonal use patterns for both 2,4,5-T and silvex, little practical relief for 1979 is offered the registrants of these products by the suspension hearings currently underway. In addition, the suspension proceedings do not afford an opportunity to be heard by an independent Administrative Law Judge, but rather are conducted by a panel of agency employees who have had great difficulty conducting the hearings in accordance with applicable legal requirements. In short, the suspension hearings as presently conducted do not offer a fair opportunity for the presentation of the issues.

For all these reasons, Dow has today withdrawn from further participation in the suspension hearings. These cancellation proceedings constitute the only remaining recourse for Dow, with respect to the products subject to the suspension orders and cancellation notices.

It is therefore imperative that these cancellation hearings be conducted in an expeditious manner, and that a final decision be reached on or before March 1, 1980 -- the starting date for the 1980 spraying season. In light of the intensive preparation undertaken in March and April by Dow, agency counsel, and others, these goals are realistic and achievable. Dow accordingly proposes the following overall schedule for the conduct of these hearings:

Additional Prehearing Preparation

May 3, 1979 - June 3, 1979

Second Prehearing Conference (If Needed)

May 23, 1979

Final Prehearing Conference

May 31, 1979

Hearings Begin

On or before June 4, 1979

Receipt of Evidence Completed

Early Fall, 1979

Administrative Law Judge

Enters Initial Decision

On or before December 1, 1979

Administrator Enters Final Decision

On or before March 1, 1980

It should be emphasized that this schedule is designed to be implemented flexibly; all parties should cooperate in a reasonable effort to conclude the hearings as quickly as possible, but no party's procedural rights should be abridged in order to meet arbitrary deadlines. Dow believes this approach may well result in a final decision even before the March 1, 1980 goal.

At the First Prehearing Conference, Dow believes the following matters should be addressed:

- 1. The parties who intend to participate actively in the cancellation proceedings should be identified.
- 2. A schedule should be set for the exchange of tentative witness lists.
- 3. A date should be set for the commencement of evidentiary hearings.
- 4. The Administrative Law Judge should address any other matters requiring early resolution.

Dow firmly believes that the approach set forth in this Motion will permit a thorough examination of the important

issues raised in these proceedings and accordingly asks that the prehearing conference and evidentiary hearings be scheduled as requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward W. Warre

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Counsel for The Dow Chemical Company

April 23, 1979

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that copies of the foregoing Motion of The Dow Chemical Company to Set Prehearing Conference Within 10 Days and to Begin Cancellation Hearings on or Before June 4, 1979, were mailed first class postage prepaid or hand delivered to the persons on the attached list on April 23, 1979.

L. Mark Wine

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Imperial, Inc. P. O. Box 423 W. Sixth Avenue Shenandoah, Iowa 51601

Imperial, Inc. P. O. Box 333-A Highway 13, North Albert Lea, Minnesota 56007

Chevron Chemical Company Ortho Division 940 Hensley Way Richmond, California 94804

Universal Cooperatives, Inc. 3001 Metro Drive Suite 500 Minneapolis, Minnesota 55420

Thompson-Hayward Chemical Co. 5200 Speaker Road Kansas City, Kansas 66106

Southern Mill Creek
Products Company
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Farmingdale Garden Labs, Inc. 136 Verdi Street Farmingdale, New York 11735

Dymon, Inc. 3401 Kansas Avenue Kansas City, Kansas 66106

Borden, Inc. 180 East Broad Street Columbus, Ohio 43215 Rowco, Inc. Right-of-Way Company 11827 Nacogdoches Road San Antonio, Texas 78217

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Nott Manufacturing Co. Pleasent Valley New York, New York 12569

Navy Brand Mfg. Co. Sill Southwest Avenue St. Louis, Missouri 63110

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The Riverdale Chemical Co. 200 East 17th Street Chicago Heights, Illinois 60411 The Platte Chemical Co. 150 South Main Fremont, Nebraska 68025

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Economy Products Co. Box 427 West 8th Avenue Shenandoah, Iowa 51601

Bonide Chemical Co., Inc. 2 Wurz Avenue Yorkville, New York 13495

Techne Corporation c/o Regulatory Affairs Dept. P. O. Box 7305 Kansas City, Missouri 64116

Farmland Industries, Inc. c/o Regulatory Affairs Dept. P. O. Box 7305 Kansas City, Missouri 64116

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USS Agri-Chemical Div. of USSC P. O. Box 1685 Atlanta, Georgia 30301 Zep Manufacturing Co.
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Continental Peat Co. Box 7368 Toledo, Ohio 43615

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