



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION I

JOHN F. KENNEDY FEDERAL BUILDING
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02203-0001



SDMS DocID 248139

RCA RECORDS CENTER
FACILITY Aerovox Inc.
I.D. NO. MA0062319777
FILE LOC. Admin. Records #19
OTHER R-16

CERTIFIED MAIL, RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

August 7, 1997

Robert D. Elliott, President
Aerovox Incorporated
740 Belleville Avenue
New Bedford, Massachusetts 02745

Aerovox
2.1
248139

Dear Mr. Elliott:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) conducted an inspection of your facility on June 25 and 26, 1997, under the authority of the Toxic Substances Control Act. During the inspection, EPA took a number of samples of the wooden floor of the capacitor impregnation tank room, and analyzed the samples for the presence of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs).

The sample analyses, which are attached, show the presence of PCBs at levels ranging from 1,180 parts per million (ppm) to 31,000 ppm in the floor of the capacitor impregnation tank room. The presence of PCBs at those levels in the floor of your facility indicates improper disposal of PCBs, in violation of the PCB regulations at 40 C.F.R. Part 761, Section 761.60, and in violation of the Toxic Substances Control Act.

The PCBs in the wooden floor of the capacitor impregnation tank room are accessible to Aerovox employees and susceptible to being spread to other areas of the facility and to the outside environment. You should take complete and immediate measures to protect employees from further contact, and to determine what other areas may also be contaminated. This office is in the process of evaluating prompt enforcement mechanisms to address the dangers of ongoing contamination and to address the PCB disposal violation.

Note that EPA's sampling on June 25 and 26 did not disclose the presence of PCBs in sampled oils from tanks or in sampled solvents from degreasing operations.

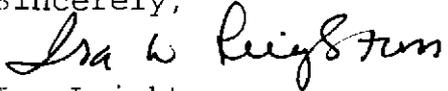
Please contact this office as soon as possible to schedule a meeting with EPA representatives. The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss EPA's sampling results, Aerovox's worker protection measures, further characterization of PCB contamination at the facility, PCB cleanup measures, and other issues as may be appropriate.



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To schedule a meeting I ask that you contact Marianne Milette, in the Air, Pesticides and Toxics Office at EPA, at (617) 565-4170. You may also have your legal representative call EPA attorney Thomas Olivier at (617) 565-1146.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ira W. Leighton".

Ira Leighton
Acting Director, Office of Environmental Stewardship

Encl.

cc: Colburn T. Cherney, Esq.
Peter Szwaja, Aerovox