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**New Bedford Harbor Superfund Forum  
Meeting  
May 1, 1996  
6:00 p.m.  
Greater New Bedford  
Vocational High School**

**AGENDA**

Status of treatability studies

- Presentation from CRTI/Commodore and Ionics on their projected study

Report of navigational/remedial dredging linkage subcommittee

Work on final ROD 2 Agreement

- Review draft agreement with changes from 3/26 meeting
- Other issues

Next meeting

Summary of the Meeting Held May 1, 1996  
of the New Bedford Harbor Superfund Forum

In attendance at the session were:

~~Facilitator~~  
Michael Keating

~~Concerned Residents of Eastcheyan~~  
Claudia Kirk

~~RRR~~  
David Janik  
Helen Waldorf

~~Residential Association~~  
Diana Cobbold  
Carol Sanz

~~SEA~~  
Larry Brill  
Cindy Catri  
David Dickerson  
Harley Laing

~~HARC~~  
Steve Cassidy  
Jim Simmons

~~New Bedford City Council~~  
Paul Koczera  
George Rogers

~~New Bedford Harbor  
Redevelopment Commission~~  
Martin Manley

~~New Bedford Mayor's Office~~  
Scott Alfonso

~~State Elected Official~~  
Rep. Bill Straus

~~Town of Acushnet~~  
Peter Koczera

Approximately fifteen members of the public attended the meeting, which was videotaped for subsequent broadcast on cable television.

The meeting opened with a presentation from representatives of two of the vendors involved in the separation and chemical destruction treatability study, Ionics/RCC and Commodore/CRTI, on their combined approach to the treatment of sediments from the hot spots. The Ionics' representative reported that recent EPA restrictions on the use of triethylamine (TEA) had led the contractor to substitute diisopropylamine (DIPA) as the solvent agent in its B.E.S.T. extraction process. The Commodore representative described the process that will be used in the pilot study to destroy chemically the PCBs in the residual oil produced by the separation process. Numerous questions from Forum members covered the nature of the process, safety factors and the implications of the substitution of DIPA for TEA in the extraction process.

After the presentation, the facilitator announced that the Town of Acushnet had officially designated a new representative to the Forum, Selectman Peter Koczera. A proposal that Roland Pepin, a long-time and faithful contributor to the Forum, continue to participate in the Forum's work as a representative of Citizens for a Clean Harbor, the umbrella coalition of citizen groups, was unanimously adopted by the Forum.

David Dickerson of EPA then updated the schedule for the pilot treatability study. The field operations plan (FOP) will be ready for review by May 15; mobilization of the pilot study equipment will begin on May 20; and the actual two-week pilot study will commence on June 5. Sea Change scientists will review the FOP and provide Forum members with a brief evaluation of the plan by the end of May. The treatability study subcommittee will meet on May 16 at 12:30 p.m. at the Sawyer Street site trailer.

Representative Bill Strain reported that the navigational/remedial dredging linkage subcommittee had addressed a letter to Congressional Representative Barney Frank seeking his help in encouraging quick and favorable approval by EPA of plans to link the navigational dredging project for New Bedford Harbor with the Superfund remedial process. The dredging linkage subcommittee will await further developments before scheduling its next meeting.

The main agenda item for the meeting was further work on the Phase 2 ROD agreement. In a spirited discussion, members reviewed each paragraph of the most recent draft of the agreement, clarifying the intent of the Forum and improving language already agreed to. Liveliest discussion centered on suggestions for the re-designation of the CDFs and limitation of the impact of the CDFs on the shores of the Acushnet River. Greater clarity was achieved relative to the agencies' commitments to continue the search for economically and technically feasible treatment of the sediments during the their placement in the CDFs and after the capping of the CDFs. The Forum also added a provision to the agreement on the need to identify and protect Native American artifacts in the shoreline areas of the estuary that are to be dredged.

The Forum completed its revision of the agreement and directed the facilitator to prepare and circulate a final version of the document within the next few days. That final version is attached to this summary. Forum members will have until Wednesday, May 22, to contact the facilitator with any problems or proposed changes. Members are reminded that the current language has been twice reviewed and approved by the full Forum, and there are few words, phrases and sentences in the document that have not been pondered, discussed and approved. Changes should not be proposed lightly.

Depending on the response of Forum members to the attached final version of the agreement, the facilitator will either circulate a final, final agreement for formal signature by all of the members of the Forum or set a date for the Forum to consider any further substantive issues and finalize the agreement.

Remember: The facilitators need to hear from you by no later than May 22 if you have problems with the current version of the agreement. Silence will be construed as approval from Forum members and the constituencies they represent. Michael Keating's telephone number is (401) 274-5383; Jane Wells' number is (617) 727-2224, extension 314.

New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site Community Forum

**AGREEMENT**

**The New Bedford Harbor Superfund Site**

Community Forum has been meeting since April 25, 1995 on issues related to the Phase 2 Record of Decision (ROD) for remediation of contamination in New Bedford Harbor. After extensive review and discussion of the agencies' original proposal, the Forum met on May 1, 1996, and agreed to the following:

1. The PCBs and heavy metals presently contaminating the Acushnet River and New Bedford Harbor need to be removed from the river and harbor. The health and ecological risks associated with their continued presence are unacceptable.

2. The Forum prefers the treatment and destruction of the PCBs and the treatment of heavy metals rather than their storage and containment in long-term or permanent confined disposal facilities (CDFs) along the shores of the river and harbor.

3. While the use of CDFs does not destroy the PCBs and heavy metals, the Forum agrees that the employment of CDFs for storage and containment of the dredged and contaminated sediments accomplishes their removal and reduces the risks to human health and the environment.

4. The Forum acknowledges that the use of CDFs for permanent storage and containment of the dredged and contaminated sediments, however, involves some risks associated with leakage and the long-term integrity of the

CDFs, as well as issues of long-term cost allocation for their maintenance.

5. The Forum also acknowledges that existing treatment alternatives for such a large amount of sediments with such high levels of contamination are neither technically nor economically feasible at this time. If treatment becomes technically and economically feasible, the agencies commit themselves to seek funding for such treatment, consistent with Superfund legislation. The agencies further commit to make public the results of, and reasons for, any such decision.

6. The agencies are committed to a continuing literature review of the applicability and feasibility of treatment alternatives developed during Phase 1 of the remediation process for the materials stored in the CDFs. After the signing of the ROD, the agencies will continue the literature review of viable treatment alternatives during the early stages of the Phase 2 remediation, before the CDFs are capped. The Forum agrees that one of the treatment alternatives to be reviewed will be bioremediation.

7. If no technically and economically feasible alternative treatment is developed prior to the capping of the CDFs, the agencies pledge to conduct a literature review, no less frequently than every five years, or more frequently upon receipt of significant new information, of developments in alternative technologies that, in the future, may become technically and economically feasible for application to the stored materials.

8. The Forum supports the utilization of some portion of the remediation CDFs to store navigational dredging spoils from the harbor.

9. The Forum agrees to the use of CDFs A, B, C, and D (formerly, respectively, the northern portion of CDF 1B, the southern portion of CDF 1B, CDF 1A and CDF 7) for the storage of contaminated sediments and other navigational dredging spoils from New Bedford Harbor for which there may be space. See the attached map for the location and a description of the CDFs that are the subject of this agreement. The Phase II ROD will expressly require that the final configuration of CDFs A and B be so designed and engineered as to ensure the integrity of the salt marshes on the eastern shore of the Acushnet River and maintain normal water levels in the Acushnet River.

10. The Forum urges all governmental agencies, federal, state and local, with a role in either remedial or navigational dredging in New Bedford Harbor to work closely together to coordinate and expedite their actions in meeting all of the many regulatory and permit issues involved in the dredging operation.

11. There is a strong commitment on the part of all its members to the continuance of the Forum to participate actively in the development of the engineering design of any CDFs, the design and implementation of monitoring plans, the planning and implementation of dredging activity; the development of appropriate uses for any capped CDFs, the review of alternative treatment

developments, and all other aspects of the development of the Phase 2 remedy.

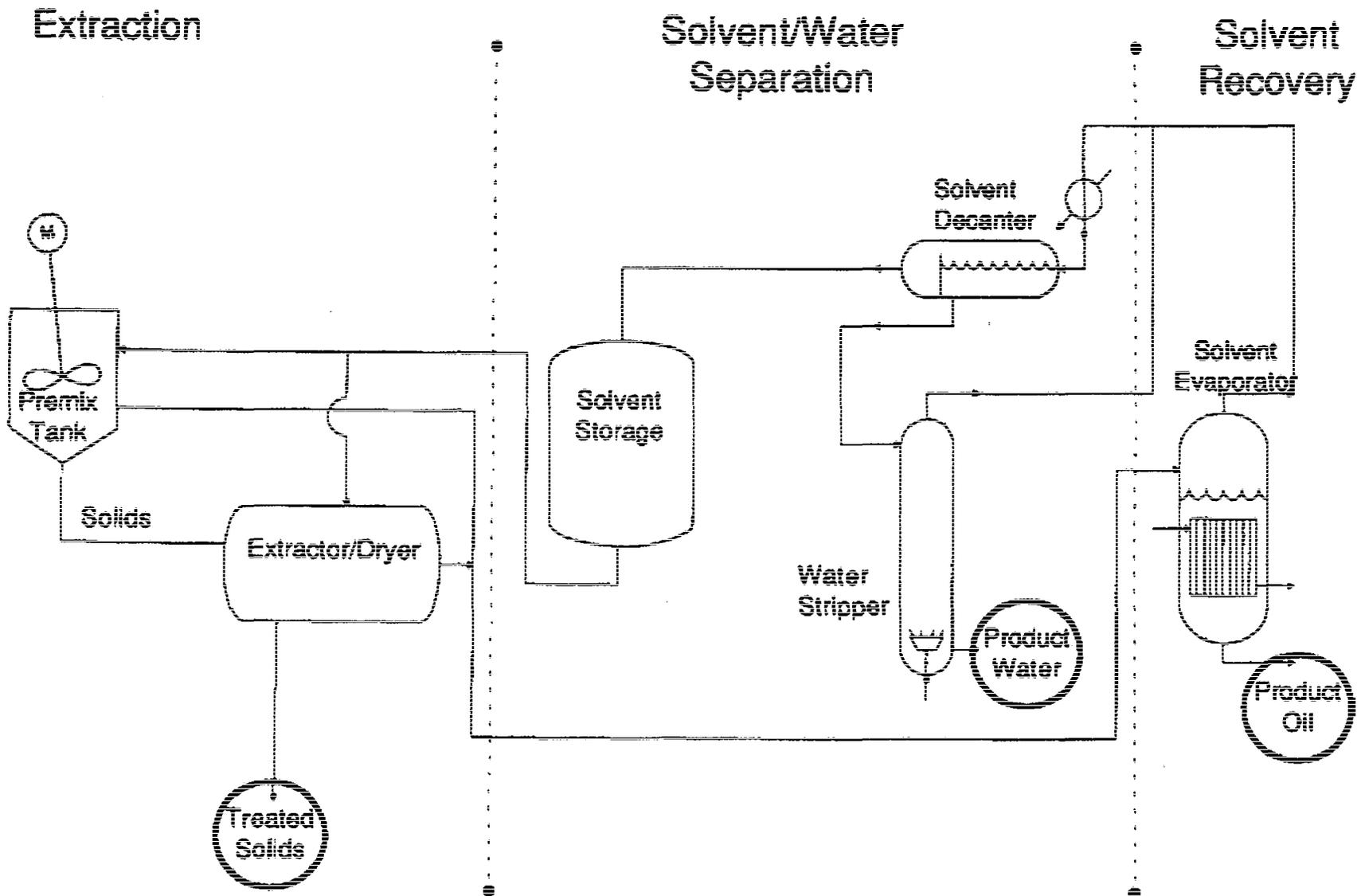
12. The Forum is committed to full implementation of the established process for identifying and preserving any Native American artifacts in the Acushnet River that may be affected by the dredging conducted during Phase 2 operations.

Signatures<sup>3</sup> of Forum representatives are attached on separate signature pages.

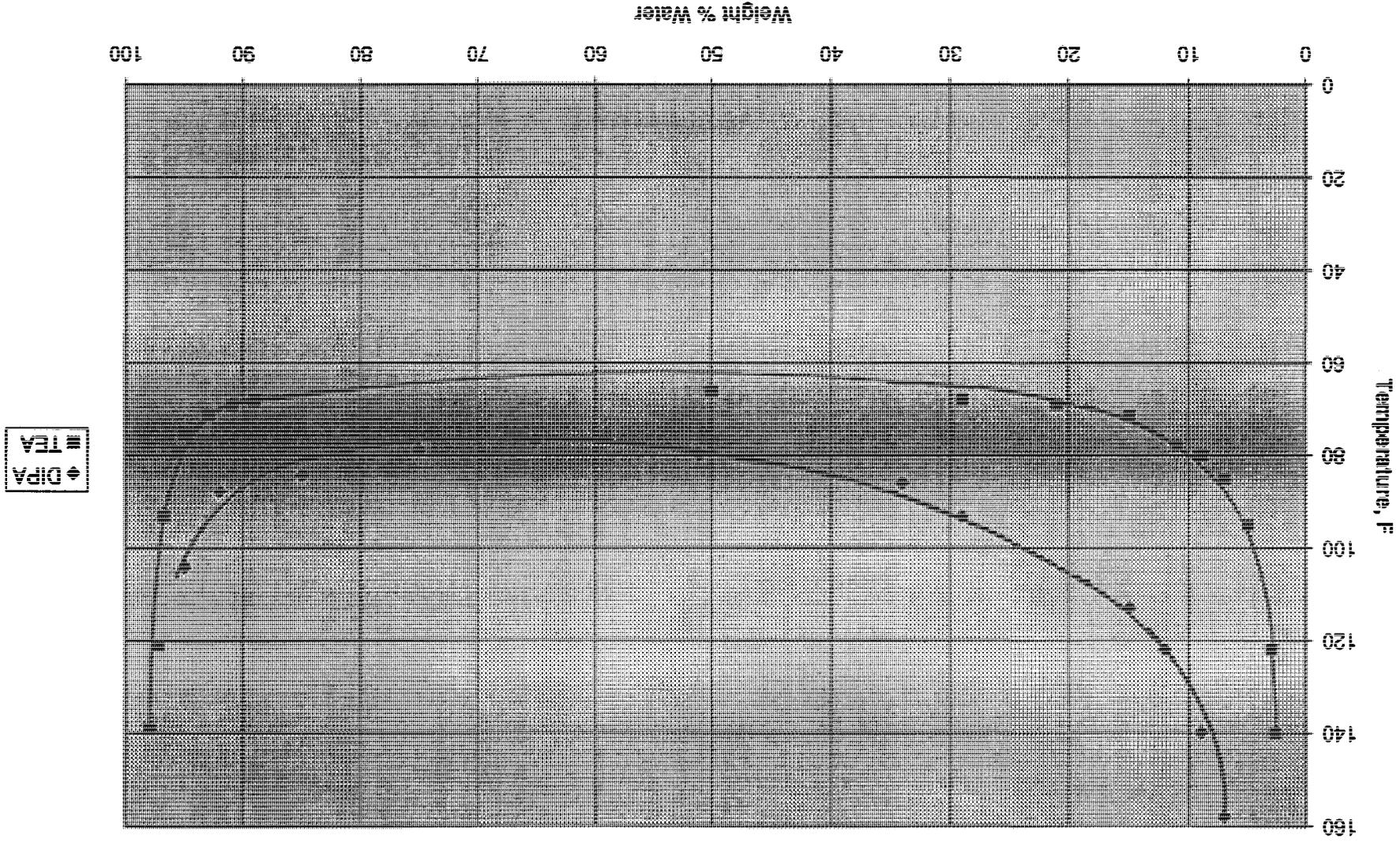
mediation/badford/plagrc2.doc

Figure 1

# B.E.S.T. SOLVENT EXTRACTION PROCESS



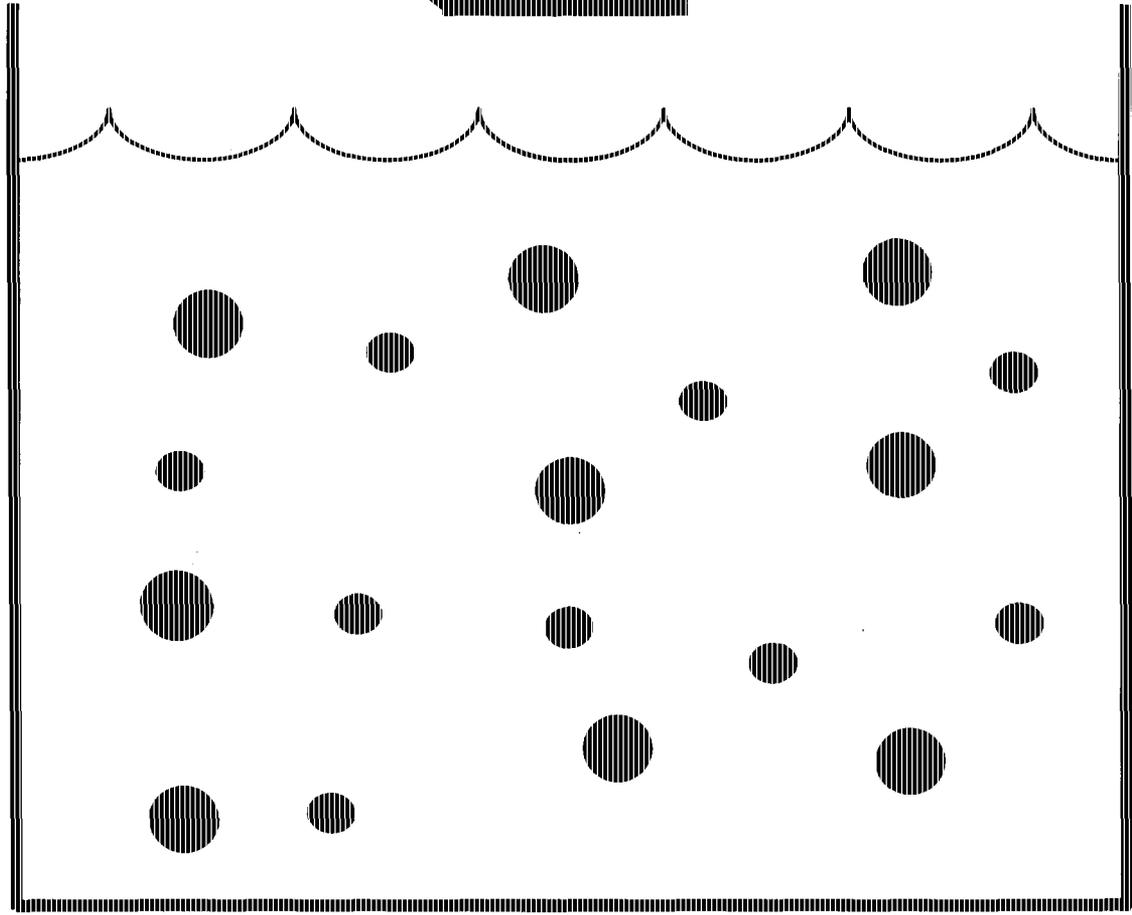
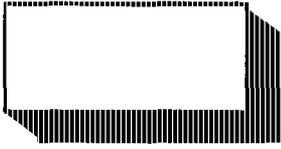
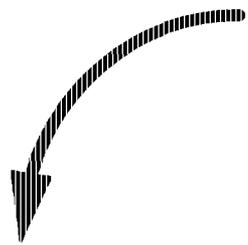
# Solvent Miscibility Comparison



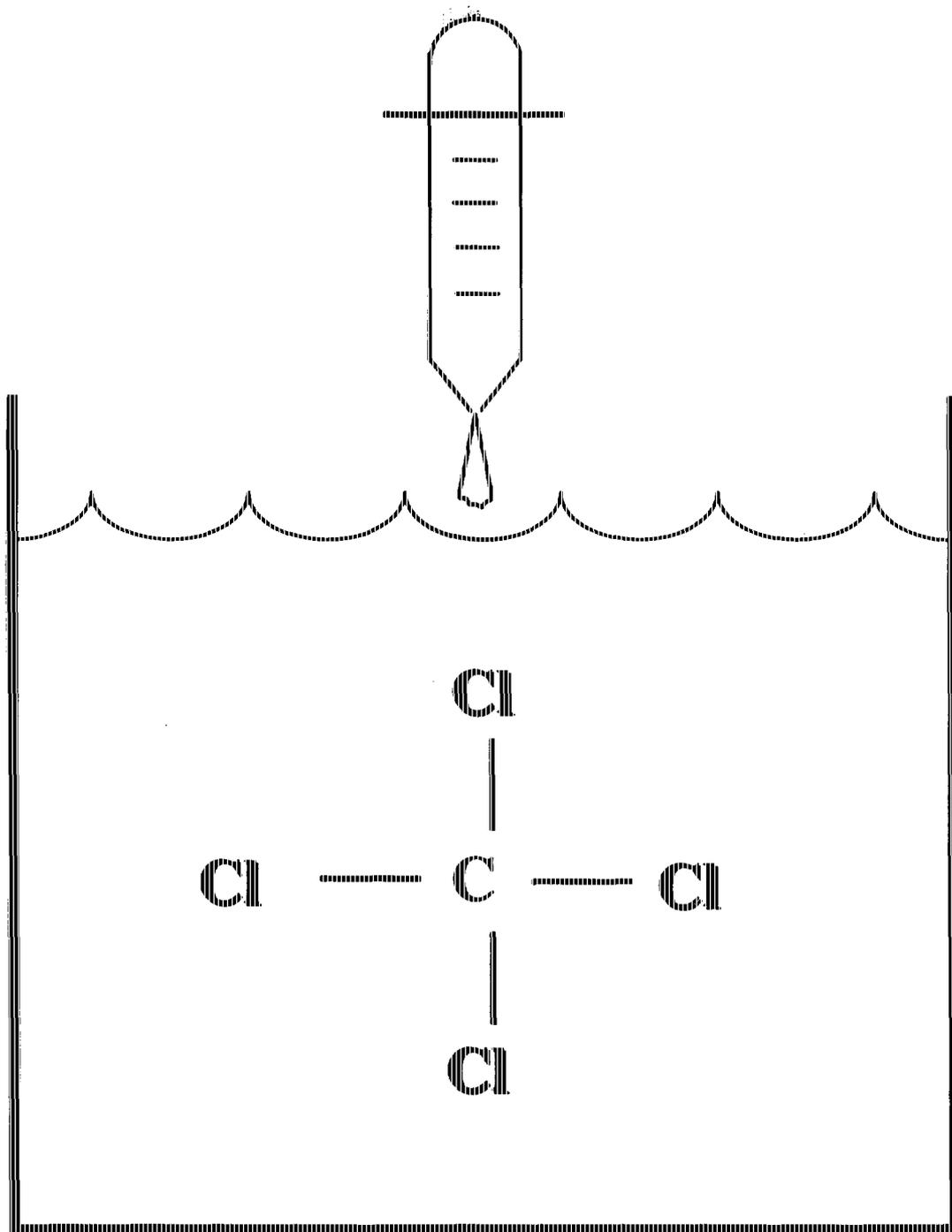
## Comparison of Solvent Extraction Results

	<u>Grasse River Triethylamine Extraction</u>	<u>Grasse River Diisopropylamine Extraction</u>
<b>PCB Concentration in:</b>		
Feed, dry basis	4,400 mg/kg	4,400 mg/kg
Treated Solids	8.0 mg/kg	6.0 mg/kg
	<u>Grand Calumet River Triethylamine Extraction</u>	<u>Grand Calumet River Diisopropylamine Extraction</u>
<b>PCB Concentration in:</b>		
Feed, dry basis	400 mg/kg	670 mg/kg
Treated Solids	1.9 mg/kg	1.6 mg/kg

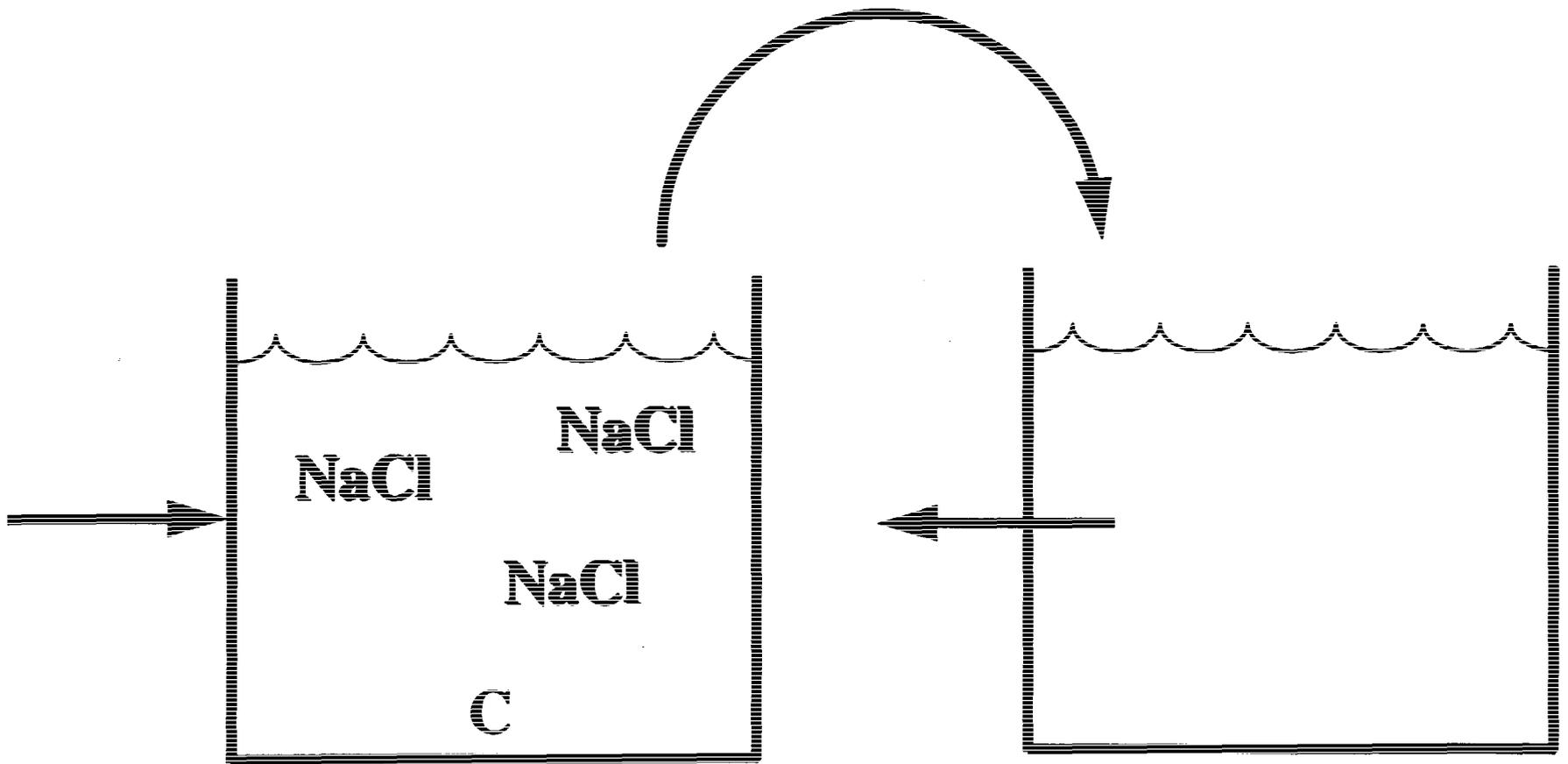
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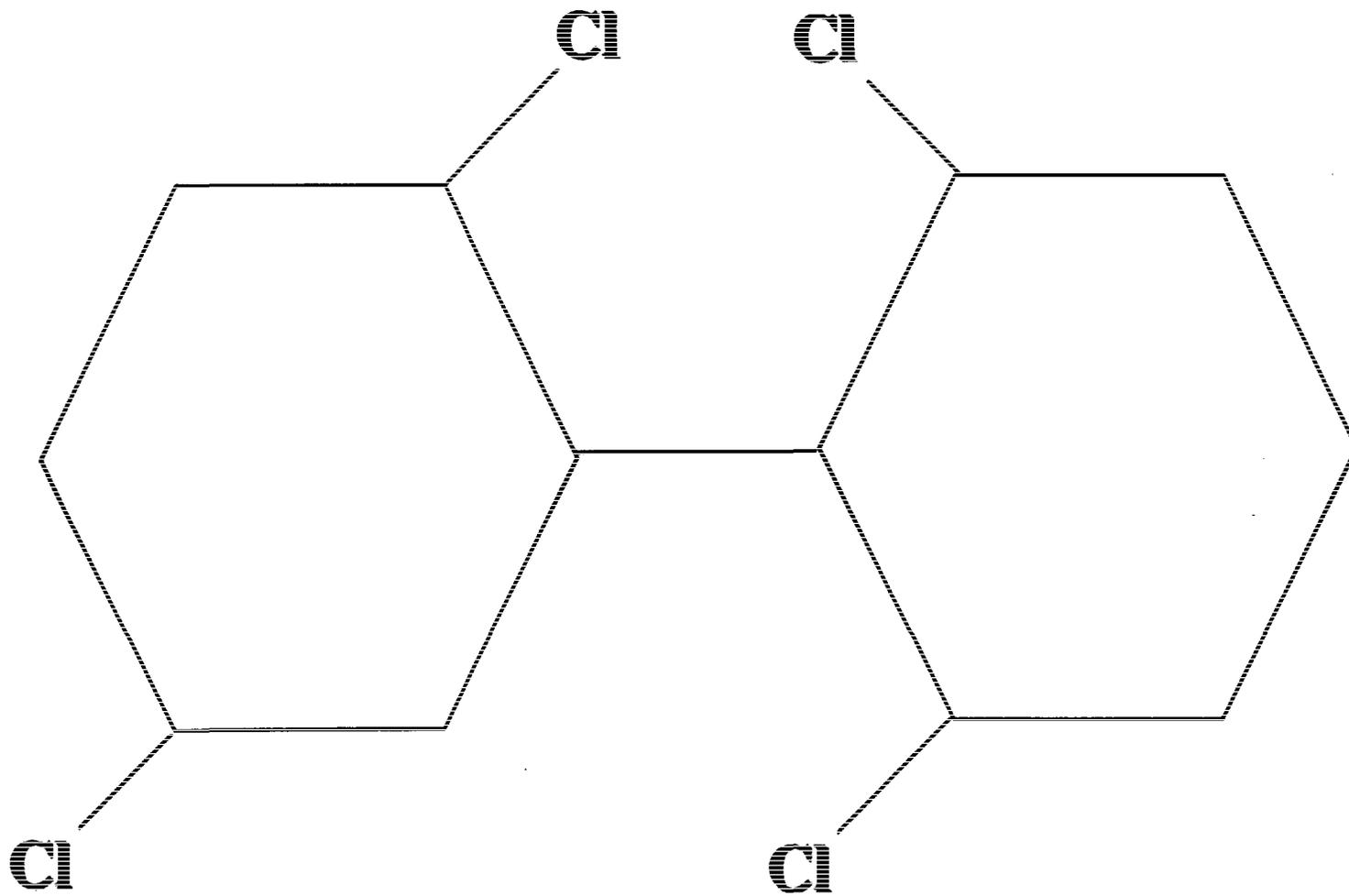
**COMMODORE**



**COMMODORE**



**COMMODORE**



**COMMODORE**

