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Sauget - Sauget
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M E M O R A N D U M

SAUGET - Cerro Copper & Brass Company
Edwin Cooper Company

TO: Division of Water Pollution Control, Field Operations Section

FROM: James B. Coyne, Supervisor, Collinsville Unit

DATE: March 29, 1974

INTERVIEWED: Paul Tandler, Mgr. of Engineering, Cerro
Bill Lorenz, Engineer, Cerro
Gale Albott, Engineer, Cerro
Sam McWilliams, Engineer, Edwin Cooper

On the above date the writer visited the subject industries which discharge their waste to the Village of Sauget sewer system. The purpose of the visit was to investigate whether these industries were responsible for excessive mercury discharges.

Monsanto Company, which also discharges to the Sauget system, has a PCB variance for mercury discharges, however, sampling indicates that there may be additional mercury being added to the system from another source.

Cerro Copper and Brass produces copper cathodes by electroplating. The process wastewaters discharged consist of spent plating solutions. These solutions receive some settling prior to discharge and represent an extremely small volume. The remainder of the 1.66 MGD flow from the plant consists of cooling water and sanitary wastes. There are two points of discharge from Cerro to the Sauget system. The one near the main entrance to the plant on Rte. 3 takes most of the sanitary wastes. The one at the rear of the plant near Dead Creek takes most of the process flow.

Cerro reportedly uses no mercury in its process. The only potential source of mercury would be from instrumentation. The Cerro representatives said they have monitored their effluent and found no elevated mercury levels.

Edwin Cooper Company manufactures organic chemicals, primary petroleum additives. The present flow of wastewater is about 1700 gpm. There are four points of discharge to the Sauget system in manholes along Monsanto Avenue.

Edwin Cooper reportedly uses no mercury in its process and has no mercury instrumentation that could contribute to the wastewater. Mr. McWilliams said they had never found elevated mercury levels in their effluent.

Visits will be made to the other industries tributary to the system and a sampling program may be set up for these discharges.

James B. Coyne

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cc: Region IV

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