

*BALLAST: PHYSICAL
PLANT*

RECEIVED

91 AUG 10 PM 2:48

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE
PURCHASING DEPARTMENT

BALLASTS (PCB)

RE: Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCB's)

This letter is in response to your recent inquiry as to whether fluorescent ballasts manufactured by Jefferson Electric contained Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCB's).

Essentially all ballasts manufactured by Jefferson or its competitors prior to 1978 would have included a sealed capacitor containing PCB dielectric fluid. While the quantity of PCB dielectric fluid would vary depending on the size of the capacitor, the average quantity would be approximately one quarter of a pound. Since the PCB dielectric fluid is contained in a sealed capacitor, it is unlikely that the capacitor would rupture allowing the PCB dielectric fluid to leak from the capacitor.

In 1978, the manufacturing process was changed to eliminate the PCB dielectric fluid. Jefferson ballasts manufactured after this change initially had a green sticker attached to the ballast case. Subsequently, Jefferson included a "No PCB" notation on this green sticker. Finally, Jefferson included the "No PCB" notation on the label attached to the ballast case.

Fluorescent ballasts containing PCB dielectric fluid and any other equipment containing PCB's must be disposed of in accordance with federal and/or state EPA regulations. Your local, federal and/or state EPA office can assist you in compliance with these regulations regarding disposal and they can also provide you with instructions or guidelines relating to cleanup programs for spills of PCB dielectric fluid.

Very truly yours,

Edward H. Haas
Technical Products Manager