

FEB 24 1975

Mr. Harry U. Brown
Department of the Interior
Office of Territories
Rm 4311
18th & C Streets, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Harry:

As a result of the meeting last Wednesday on the need for additional information for updating Bikini dose estimates, we agreed to suggest some words for part of a letter from DOI to DOD.

If there is any further help we can give, please let me know.

Sincerely,

LS

L. Joe Deal
Assistant Director for
Health Protection
Division of Operational Safety

Enclosure:
As stated

cc w/encl.
J. L. Liverman, AES
J. Maher, OAES
Capt. W. W. Gay, MA
Roger Ray, NV

OFFICE →	OS:ADHP				
SURNAME →	LJDEAL/nr				
DATE →	2/24/75				

L Joe Deal Personal Files

ENCLOSURE

The resettlement of the Bikini Atoll, which was used for nuclear weapons testing is resulting in a high degree of public, UN and Congressional interest. For example, Senator Jackson's subcommittee..... (Harry Brown, give us for instance). Despite assurances that the atoll is safe, the attitude and fears of the people are being influenced by outside elements many of whom are critics of the nuclear program. If we are to avoid disrupting the resettlement plans at Bikini, and the loss of our credibility with the people, we must answer the critics. To do this we need a great deal of additional data on the radiological situation at Bikini Atoll. In addition, there is a critical need for more information in order to proceed with current planning to construct a second group of homes on Bikini Atoll. Since the Bikini radiological surveys were made in the 1960's, more sophisticated and sensitive instrumentation is available. The accepted radiological practices have become more stringent and there has been extensive land clearing for planting crops, which may have affected the radiation situation on the islands.

The ERDA is prepared to conduct an additional radiological survey of Bikini Atoll beginning in April if logistics support can be provided to include:

1. Two helicopters and an associated support platform for about 12 days of flight operations at Bikini Atoll.
2. Airlift from CONUS to Bikini Atoll and return for ERDA technical equipment and personnel.

There is a longer term problem of developing a current documentation of the residual radioactivity on all the islands that received fallout from U. S. nuclear weapons tests. This also could be accomplished starting in April or later in the year with ERDA providing the technical resources. Such a survey would require an additional 30 days of flight operations at several atolls.

As you know, neither the Energy Research and Development Administration nor the Department of the Interior have this kind of integrated logistics support capability. Since the situation has potentially serious political implications for the U. S. Government and the Administration, I strongly request that you consider providing the necessary support from Department of Defense resources. Your personal attention and early response would be greatly appreciated. I will be pleased to discuss this with you personally if you so desire.

OFFICE ➤						
SURNAME ➤						
DATE ➤						