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ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION

JAN 28 1977

Assistant Administrator  
National Security

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<del>Standard</del>
Giller
Wainwright <i>(Signature)</i>
Bradley
Siebert
Rousse
Others:
DMA
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77-1  
DMA has reviewed  
and their position is  
attached. They  
recommend concurrence  
*(Signature)*

I have  
concurred  
on yellow  
*(Signature)*

GPO 575-177

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*(Enewetak - Organization)*

UNITED STATES  
ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20545

JAN 26 1977

Alfred D. Starbird  
Assistant Administrator  
for National Security

ENEWETAK CLEANUP PROGRAM

Issue

To obtain ANS concurrence in a proposed reply by AES (Tab A) to an incoming DNA letter concerning the funding available for radiological support to the Enewetak cleanup operation (Tab B).

Background

In April 1972 High Commissioner of the Trust Territory Johnson and Ambassador Williams, the President's Personal Representative for Micronesian Status Negotiations, announced that the United States Government was prepared to return Enewetak Atoll to the Trust Territory Government at the end of calendar year 1973. Prior to resettlement, cleanup and rehabilitation of the atoll must be accomplished. The Defense Nuclear Agency has been designated within the DOD to conduct the cleanup operation. In an effort to help the DNA develop the overall funding requirement for radiological control in the cleanup operation, ERDA (then AEC) in 1973 provided DNA with a \$1.5 M cost estimate. This estimate was based on the use of a DNA contractor and on past experience only. It also was developed before the results of the Enewetak Radiological Survey (conducted from October 1972 to February 1973) were available. Major General Camm, then Director, DMA, offered to provide ERDA (then AEC) or ERDA contractor support on a reimbursable basis (Tab C). Major General Johnson, then Deputy Director for Operations and Administration (DDOA), DNA, indicated a strong interest in the offer (Tab D). In 1975 Major General Shedd, DDOA, DNA, entered into an agreement with Dr. Liverman, AES, regarding the interagency support for the cleanup of Enewetak Atoll (Tab E). The purpose of the agreement was to define the technical support to be provided and likewise to define the support DNA would provide ERDA and its contractors during the time DNA is actively engaged in cleanup operations at Enewetak Atoll.

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The agreement calls for ERDA to provide, with full reimbursement from DNA, radiological support for the cleanup operation to include (but not limited to):

1. Day-to-day field monitoring, dosimetry, and recordkeeping pertaining to health and safety of cleanup personnel and other atoll residents and visitors.
2. Radiological classification of material for removal, disposal, or reuse.
3. Certification, on an island-by-island basis, when radiological cleanup meeting the guidelines established by the AEC/ERDA in their Task Group Report has been accomplished.
4. Establishment, operation, and maintenance of a field laboratory to support the above functions.

The obligations assumed by either party under the terms of the agreement were to be contingent upon the funding of the proposed cleanup project by Congress. The DOD requested an appropriation of \$39.9 M for the cleanup operation, including the \$1.5 M for ERDA support. Ultimately Congress authorized \$20.0 M in the FY 1977 Military Construction Appropriation Act for DNA to conduct the cleanup operations using troop units.

#### Discussion

In his incoming letter, the Director, DNA, has informed AES that funding for the Enewetak cleanup operation has become severely constrained, that it is essential that ERDA accomplish the radiological reimbursable support to DNA within the estimated costs, and that any additional funding for those tasks be borne by ERDA. AES in his reply disagrees, pointing out that the \$1.5 M estimate for radiological support was made in 1973 and is now unrealistic. He recommends that the \$1.5 M be released as a first increment in order that ERDA may proceed.

#### Recommendation

ANS concur with the attached letter from Dr. Liverman to Lieutenant General Johnson.

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Next Step

Return the correspondence to DMA (Tests) for further coordination and return to SSC.

*F. B. Gillert*

J. K. Bratton  
Major General, USA  
Director of Military Application

Attachments:

- Tab A -- Proposed ltr fm Liverman  
to Johnson
- Tab B -- Ltr fm Johnson to Liverman  
dated 7/16/76
- Tab C -- Ltr fm Camm to Dunn dated  
8/30/73
- Tab D -- Ltr fm Johnson to Camm  
dated 9/27/73
- Tab E -- Agreement

cc: E. B. Giller, DANS, w/o Atts.

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