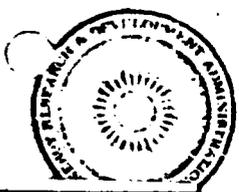


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UNITED STATES
ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20545

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SUMMARY OF BIKINI-ENEWETAK CONFERENCE, JANUARY
13-15, 1975

Holmes and Narver, Inc., hosted the meeting. The agenda and attendance are shown in Attachments I and II. While an invitation was extended, no one came from Micronesian Legal Services Corporation (MLSC).

Bill Robison presented the draft LLL proposal for studies directed at the question (with a five year time for an answer) of when people can return to live on Enjebi Island at Enewetak Atoll. See Attachment III. The work with test plantings will require movement of a considerable amount of soil from a relatively clean island, to Enjebi. The island of Rex, off the channel between David and Parry, is seen as a possible source of this soil. Robison will be selecting areas for test plantings during the current planning trip. It was suggested that the tests plots should conform to the Enewetak land use plan. Ground water studies will be expanded to cover the test plots.

Dennis McBreen and Carleton Hawpe presented results of the field trip to Ujelang to review the Enewetak Master Plan with the people. See Attachment IV. They reported that the Enewetak people had accepted the AEC recommendation that Enjebi Island could not be resettled along with islands in the south and that this island requires further study. The problem of finding a place in the southern islands for homes for the Enjebi people turned out not as difficult as had been anticipated. However, certain trade-offs and sacrifices are being made by the people in order to comply with restrictions on land use. We are to see another draft of the plan before it is again shown to the people. It was reported that Mr. Mitchell, MLSC, informed the people that it is possible they could be granted land rights on Ujelang in exchange for claims for damage in Enewetak. Harry Brown said that currently, Ujelang will be given to the Enewetak people only if claims for damage are waived.

The Ujelang visitors were impressed with the amount of work done and things accomplished by the Enewetak leadership since the September 1974 trip. They reported that it was evident that information regarding needed restrictions had been well presented and understood by the people and their leaders. The impression

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is that the people are resigned to the Enjebi situation. Earl Gilmore stated that the Enewetak Master Plan will be completely overhauled. The revised plan will not show a political division among the Enewetak people.

A plan was presented for the early return to Japtan, see Attachment V. There are two groups of 50 people being discussed. First, there is the early return of 50 people to Japtan supported by Trust Territory (TTPI). Next, there are 50 people associated with cleanup in a DMA supported camp. During cleanup, there could be as many as 150 people on Japtan including workers and their families. It was stated that the legal document for transfer of the atoll must be signed before anyone returns to Japtan. When the TTPI group of 50 (more or less) returns, they will be supported by a Distad. Rep. and his family (12 people) and a health aid and family. In preparation for the return, wells will be put in for water for washing and catchments for drinking and cooking water. The people hope that AEC can provide some employment in work with test plantings. It was mentioned that a camp for workers will be needed on Enjebi. We should be thinking about how to explain this to those who are not being allowed to return.

During the discussion of TT providing a health aid for the early return, it was mentioned that DNA has not yet decided whether to have a medical doctor in the atoll during cleanup operations. This may be something we should speak to them about.

I stated that we know that the Distad. Rep. on Japtan is to supervise and control the collection of any scrap material in the atoll regardless of the source and location of collection. I told the group that this material must be checked for radioactivity prior to removal from the atoll. Also, I stated that detailed guidance should be developed for use by the Distad. Rep. in making decisions on any scrap collection. Roger Ray indicated NV could probably develop guidance for the use of the Distad. Rep.

The early return to Japtan is to be treated as a separate item in the Enewetak EIS and presented as an attachment. DNA representatives stated they need AEC comments next week on the plans for early return to Japtan and also on EPA comments on the EIS. The final Master Plan will have to be presented to the people, probably in Majuro.

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McBreen and Hawpe briefed on work to develop a Bikini Master Plan. They had received a good reception by the people at Kili. The 40 houses completed on Bikini Island have been accepted. The plan under development should be considered an optimum plan for land use since it contains only the peoples preferences and has not been considered by others. The plan contains 156 additional houses in an optimum pattern.

A problem developed that the Bikini Iroij's son has been in contact with some Japanese who said Bikini was not fit for habitation. The reply given was that the technical people would have to solve such problems and that this could not be dealt with on this visit.

The visitors presented 6 options for core houses. Information was obtained on which house was preferred by each family along with the desired location so that a plan can be prepared. The people are to review the plan before it is final. Attachment VI shows the number of houses desired within each land holding. The black squares are the 40 houses already built. The black circles are Phase II construction and open circles are future construction. Attachment VII shows where within the interior of Bikini Island the Phase II houses are to be built according to the preference of the people. Note that the area around the houses shown by lighter dots is for subsistence crops.

Actually, there are 38 Phase II houses, 13 to 14 on Eneu Island and 25 on Bikini Island (one house may be built on a small island between Eneu and Bikini). No community center is planned for Eneu.

The Bikini people are unhappy with the previous house plan. The visitors showed how additional rooms could be added to existing houses using the porch areas. It was also desired that sleeping location be on raised platforms (raised to window height). The soil cement floors of porches are to be replaced with concrete. Eight inches of fill material is to be placed under floor slabs for houses in the Bikini Island interior. The completion date for the draft plan is the end of March. AEC can review this. The TT planners are assuming that the interior of Bikini Island is acceptable for housing until they hear differently from us.

Dr. Biles reviewed the decisions and actions relative to Bikini rehabilitation including construction of houses. After learning that all of the first group of houses were to be built on Bikini instead of Eneu Island, he stated that he had recommended that the best location on Bikini Island was along the lagoon shore where radiation levels were lowest. He recalled that

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AEC had reviewed plans for building the Bikini houses with the idea of commenting on those things that would keep radiation exposures down. Among these was use of clean sand and aggregate for making concrete, addition of soil cement floors under porches, and covering ground around houses with coral gravel. Dr. Biles stated that the study of Enewetak Atoll had developed new findings with regard to terrestrial foods that are probably applicable to Bikini Atoll as well.

The possible construction of additional houses on Bikini Island was discussed. I reviewed Gustafson's predicted doses for a village on Bikini where it was assumed that children would spend 10 percent of their time in the interior. See Attachments VIII and IX. For comparison I showed preliminary estimates of LLL predictions using updated monitoring results and dose models that were used to make the Enewetak estimates. See Attachments X and XI. I reported that these new preliminary estimates are disturbing, the problem being the component of total dose that may come through use of locally grown foods. I stated that additional restrictions on use of locally grown food such as pandanus may be needed when those crops start to become available (in the next few years). I pointed out that those living in any new houses built in the interior of the island would receive higher exposures than for the present village location. I stated that it was the total dose that is important and that our goal is to keep that dose to a value as low as practicable and as low as for those living on Enewetak.

Mr. DeBrum wanted to know if it was safe for the people already living on Bikini Island to remain. The answer given was that the exposures to external radiation for people living in houses along the lagoon road was expected to be acceptably low and that no significant amount of local terrestrial food is yet available. The current diet consists primarily of fish, which have very low levels of radioactivity, plus imported foods. It was stated, however, that additional evaluation of radiation exposures would be needed if more houses are constructed on Bikini Island in the interior of the island where levels of external radiation are known to be higher. These calculations and evaluations would take about three months of effort.

Harry Brown stated that there is need to establish a Bikini Advisory Group, BAG, (my euphemism) to coordinate activities of Bikini rehabilitation. A member should be identified from each of the several agencies that are involved. The following

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people are to constitute the Advisory Group:

DOI Brown
TT Coleman
Marshalls DeBrum
AEC Biles (Ray for logistics, McCraw for radiological)

H&N Gilmore

It was agreed that any member could call a meeting and that Brown would act as a central point of contact. He is to be sent copies of all future reports and correspondence that would be of interest to the group. MLSC is to be asked to participate. It is anticipated that subjects for future meetings will include "The Bikini Master Plan," and "Bikini Radiological Information" (the report on recalculation of doses).

As to tasks and schedules for BAG, AEC is to receive the draft Bikini Master Plan (this is the ultimate version based on the peoples wishes) containing building plans, construction data, and land use information by January 24. (We agreed that TT and H&N staff could go ahead with this version but pointed out that the plan is subject to change since the new radiological information is not yet available.) The target date to publish a preliminary plan is March 31.

AEC is to prepare a Radiological Evaluation/Assessment using as input, material from the Master Plan. Data from the most recent survey (December 1974) is to be available from BNL by about mid-March 1975. Nat Greenhouse said he thought they could meet this schedule. Dose estimates and an evaluation of these doses are to be completed by mid-April 1975 with a meeting for presentation of results in late April. I will be talking to Bill Robison about this when he gets back from the Pacific. AEC is to present a plan for an aerial survey of Bikini Atoll at this same meeting including a backup plan for a ground survey in case the necessary support for the aerial survey cannot be obtained. There is to be a meeting on the Final Bikini Master Plan sometime between mid-May and June 1, 1975.

AEC is to accelerate its followup survey program for Bikini Atoll because of master plan developments and things learned about the environment in the Enewetak survey. Things learned at Enewetak will be used at Bikini.

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The meeting in Anaheim was conducted in a n atmosphere of warm and friendly cooperation. The TT people are doing their homework and are eager to hear our findings and recommendations. I think the BAG can serve a useful purpose and provide helpful information that has been difficult for us to get in the past.

T. F. McCraw

Tommy F. McCraw
Special Assistant

Enclosures:
As stated

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