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DEC 14 1984

Honorable Janet McCoy
High Commissioner
Trust Territories of the
Pacific Islands
Saipan, GM 96950

DPO
Ray

12/14/84

PILOT STUDIES OF PYROLYTIC COPRA PROCESSING

As you are aware, the Office of the High Commissioner in 1980 provided an initial increment of funding to initiate investigation by Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) of a technique of pyrolytic processing which it was hoped might have applicability at Enewetak and Bikini.

The pyrolytic coconut processing unit has been completed, and preliminary runs with Bikini and control coconuts have been made. The preliminary experiments indicate that the oil produced is relatively free of 137Cs, while the residual charcoal contains most of the activity. It is necessary to do additional experiments to confirm the distribution of 137Cs after processing.

After sufficient data are collected for statistical analysis of 137Cs distribution in the end products, LLNL proposes to develop experiments to determine whether or not the 137Cs in the residual charcoal can be extracted for disposal leaving a "clean" charcoal for commercial and industrial use. Dr. Robison also plans to obtain the assistance of chemists who will evaluate the properties and fatty acid composition of the coconut oil from the pyrolytic reactor to compare with properties and composition of oil from standard larger press extraction. I believe that successful completion of this work can be an important contribution to the ultimate resettlement of the populations at both Bikini and Enewetak.

I understand from Andy Wilson that approximately \$30,000 of additional funding may be available to apply to the continuation of this work. This letter is to indicate our willingness to pursue these studies further and to suggest that the additional funding be made available through your memorandum of understanding with PASO. The work will then be integrated into the ongoing DOE Marshall Islands program. 3 58 11 84

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Roger Ray (DPO) Comes 1984
HARRY BROWN'S Files, NV

DEC 14 1984

Honorable Janet McCoy

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By copy of this letter, Bill Stanley is requested to arrange for any necessary modification of the current program scope letter and for any other required documentation.

Original Signed By
ROGER RAY

Roger Ray, Deputy for
Pacific Operations

cc:

William L. Robison, L453, LLNL,
Livermore, CA

William J. Stanley, Dir., PASO

John E. Rudolph, HQ (DP-224) GTN



October 9, 1984

Roger Ray
Department of Energy
NV00
P.O. Box 14100
Las Vegas, Nevada 89114

RE: PROPOSED ADDITIONAL WORK FOR T.T.P.I. COCONUT PROCESSING

Dear Roger:

The pyrolytic coconut processing unit has been completed and preliminary runs with Bikini and control coconuts have been made. The preliminary experiments indicate that the oil produced is relatively free of 137Cs while the residual charcoal contains most of the activity. It is necessary to do additional experiments to confirm the distribution of 137Cs after processing.

After sufficient data are collected for statistical analysis of 137Cs distribution in the end products, we propose to develop experiments to determine whether or not the 137Cs in the residual charcoal can be extracted for disposal leaving a "clean" charcoal for commercial and industrial use. We also would like to make contact with chemists who could evaluate the properties and fatty acid composition of the coconut oil from the pyrolytic reactor to compare with properties and composition of oil from standard larger press extraction.

Best regards,

William L. Robison
Section Leader
Terrestrial & Atmospheric Sciences

WLR/mt

ACTION	<u> BPO </u>
INFO	_____
R.F.	_____
AMA	_____
AME & S	_____
AMO	_____