

Reviewed by B. Schulte Date 4/30/97

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Battelle

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December 29, 1981

409888

Dr. Henry I. Kohn
Epidemiology Resources, Inc.
1203 Shattuck Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94709

Dear Dr. Kohn:

I am responding to your letter of December 11, 1981 requesting information about the material in the Bikini book prepared by Jack Healy, Bruce Wachholz and myself. I apologize for not responding more promptly but I have been traveling most of the month.

Your letter of November 4 which inquired about dose calculations as well as portions of your December 11 letter suggests that you still may be unclear as to the origin of the material in the Bikini book. To clarify this, all dose calculations were made by Dr. Robison and his colleagues. The dose data were provided to Drs. Wachholz, Healy and me for use in preparing estimates of potential health risks. Apparently you have already discussed the dose calculations with Dr. Robison. Any further questions you have about the dose values, such as comparisons of the values in the Bikini book with values in other reports, should also be directed to Dr. Robison. I cannot comment upon comparisons between dose values in the book and those you may have seen in a more recent report being prepared by Dr. Robison. The values given in the Bikini book were provided by Dr. Robison at the time the book was being prepared. Subsequent work by Dr. Robison may have yielded somewhat different values. However, I have not seen his latest draft.

The following are brief responses to some of your questions. However, your question about how the risk estimates were calculated can be answered best by a summary I hope to complete shortly.

1. Origin of 6200 mrem on page 22:

We assumed that the maximum amount of radiation one person might receive during a year would be about three times the average dose to individuals in the population.

2. I can't comment on the values in Dr. Robison's Table 27.

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FOLDER Bikini - 1981

Dr. Henry I. Kohn

2

December 29, 1981

3. We had to use risk coefficients from BEIR-I (1972) because BEIR-III had not been accepted by the U.S. government. Details of how we applied these risk coefficients will follow as soon as I complete a summary for you, hopefully within the next two weeks.

I am sorry I cannot provide the details you require more promptly, but because of the press of other commitments I have not completed transferring the information from my notebook to the summary mentioned above.

Sincerely yours,



W. J. Bair, Ph.D.
Manager
Environment, Health and
Safety Research Program

WJB:ms

cc: J. W. Healy
B. W. Wachholz
W. L. Robison