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Date November 12, 1980

To Will Smith

From John Williford 

Subject Pacific Trust Territories Wind Assessments

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According to Rich Barchet, the regional wind studies for the Pacific Trust Territories, which are part of the Wind Characterization Element of the Federal Wind Program (DOE), are nearly complete under work subcontracted to the University of Hawaii. The result will be an island-by-island atlas summarizing wind resources, and may be divided in the case of larger islands into a finer level of detail.


Thus, in suggesting energy assessments or planning as part of the Pacific Trust Territories work, we should not embarrass ourselves by replicating what has already been done. However, validation of specific sites, integration of this energy resource with needs and some demonstrations might be reasonable. Infrastructure development through siting courses might also be helpful.

Wind is one possibility among several, and an integration of possible energy development alternatives might reasonably be done once an idea of the host countries' plans and desires is in hand.

Apparently some rather massive studies of the Pacific Trust Territories have been done in the past, but never publically released. The Solomon Report, which apparently runs about 800 pages, is one of these. In it, recommendations were made for non-governmental entities to take up various developmental and technical assistance tasks. At the time, this was a threat to the government administrative bureaucracy and was never implemented. Conditions now appear to be different.

If past history is any indication, political appointees of the losing party will no doubt vanish, and whatever continuity obtains will come from staff in civil service positions. Do we have any contacts in the secure portions of this office to keep tracking developments during the transition period?

DOCUMENT DOES NOT CONTAIN ECI

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