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AEC TASK GROUP ON RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CLEANUP
AND REHABILITATION OF ENIWETOK ATOLL

The purpose of this document is to describe the steps that will be taken by the AEC to prepare judgements on the radiological state of the Eniwetok Atoll and recommendations for cleanup and rehabilitation. These judgements and recommendations, when approved by the Commission, are to be provided to the Department of Defense (DOD) and Department of the Interior (DOI) for their use in implementing cleanup and rehabilitation actions.

The AEC assumed responsibility for conducting this radiological assessment on September 7, 1972. Field operations were completed in February 1973; laboratory analyses and data reduction are scheduled to be completed by 1 August 1973; the report is to be completed by 1 September 1973, and is to be published by 1 October 1973. The radiological survey report will provide:

1. Data on the distribution of radioactivity in all components of the Eniwetok Atoll environment.
2. Information on the living habits and diet of the Eniwetok people.
3. Estimates of internal and external radiation exposures resulting from various patterns of habitation, land use, and diet.
4. Estimates of the effectiveness of remedial actions taken to reduce exposures.

Judgements and recommendations based on information in the radiological survey report are to be prepared for Commission approval by the Division

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of Biomedical and Environmental Research (DBER), Operational Safety (DOS), Military Application (DMA), Environmental Affairs (DEA), and Waste Management and Transportation (DWMT). Field office, laboratory, and contractor assistance will also be utilized. Federal health and environmental agencies such as the Environmental Protection Agency will be consulted.

Attachment 1 shows the Task Group that has been formed to develop judgements and recommendations. The Task Group consists of four components:

1. Drafting Group, which will:
 - a. Maintain a current and complete knowledge of the information being obtained by the radiological survey team.
 - b. Write draft copies of judgements and recommendations based on the survey report.
 - c. Obtain guidance and comments from the other members of the Task Group.
 - d. Prepare the final document ~~[For Commission Approval]~~.
2. Headquarters Liaison, the members of which will provide guidance and comments to the Drafting Group and liaison between the Task Group and their parent divisions.
3. Interagency Liaison, the members of which will provide guidance and comments to the Drafting Group and liaison between the Task Group and their parent agency.

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4. Advisors, the members of which have been selected because of their professional skills and their knowledge of the Eniwetok Atoll. They will provide advice and comments to the Drafting Group as appropriate.

Judgements and recommendations prepared by the Task Group will be limited to radiological considerations and will include:

1. Identification of areas which are suitable for rehabilitation in their current state.
2. Actions which provide for radiation dose reductions through alterations of the environment, among which may be removal of contaminated debris; agricultural and land management procedures; radiation shielding by optimized designs in structures and living space and by covering or removing soil containing radioactivity.
3. Controls on living habits, including food items to be added to or excluded from the diet, and identifying possible restrictions on land use.
4. Followup actions to be taken subsequent to cleanup and rehabilitation.

Currently available guidance on radiation protection practices, objectives, and actions appropriate to situations involving contamination of the environment will be used by the Task Group in making its judgements and recommendations. Radiation Protection Guides and Protection Action Guides of the FRC, and guidance from ICRP, and NCRP will be used.

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Consideration of needed actions against plutonium in the Eniwetok Atoll environment will be based on observed levels in the environment and on current guidelines for Maximum Permissible Concentrations (MPC'S) in air and water and Maximum Permissible Body Burdens (MPB's) recommended by ICRP and NCRP. No generally applicable guideline for plutonium in soil has been issued by the standards bodies. Lacking such guidance, the Task Group will consider maximum concentrations of plutonium in the Eniwetok soil which will result in lower-than-MPB concentrations in the native population through all known dose-to-man pathways.

The Task Group report is to be completed by November 1, 1973 for transmittal to Division of Operational Safety.

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ATTACHMENT 1

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