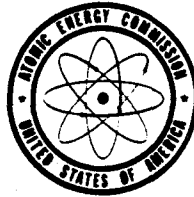


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June 21, 1972

SECY-2549

*From NMB-K*

**POLICY SESSION ITEM**

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DISCUSSION OF REHABILITATION ON ENIWETOK ATOLL

Note by the Secretary

The General Manager has requested the attached report of June 19, 1972 be circulated for discussion at the Policy Session on Tuesday, June 27, 1972 and has provided the following digest:

The announced intention of cleanup of Eniwetok Atoll for return to the Trust Territory will involve a much larger operation and cost than a similar action about to be completed for Bikini (possibly tens of millions of dollars). The background leading to the present situation and description of some of the conditions on Eniwetok observed in recent visits are reviewed in the attached discussion paper.

It is suggested that, as with rehabilitation of Bikini Atoll, responsibility for rehabilitation of Eniwetok Atoll should rest with the Department of the Interior and the Department of Defense, with AEC providing technical support to these departments. AEC should cooperate with Interior and Defense by providing radiological surveys for planning cleanup and health physics support during field operations. AEC's responsibility would be the radiological health and safety aspects of the rehabilitation operation. AEC would provide followup radiological surveillance of the Eniwetok environment and medical surveillance of the returning Eniwetok people.

An early meeting is scheduled with Ambassador Franklin Haydn Williams, Office of Micronesian Status Negotiations, Department of the Interior, to review with him information about Eniwetok that is known at the present time and what might be

(Continued)

*Without Attachment*  
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*BY R.A. CARPENTER*  
*HPBchitto 6/14/94*

*3108/7238/ P0166*

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involved in cleanup of the Atoll for return to the Trust Territory. The NSC has been informed of the situation in light of the potential cost and still unresolved conclusion whether it will be possible to clean up Eniwetok sufficiently to return it to the Trust Territory.

W. B. McCool

Secretary of the Commission

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