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Safety & Environmental Protection Division

June 6, 1979

Marsh


Dr. Bruce Wacholz
Office of Environment
US Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20545

Dear Bruce:

In response to your letter of June 1, 1979, we have not been requested by DOE to provide Interior with information on our personnel monitoring activities. I would in fact prefer that such information be provided to DOI through EV unless otherwise directed. Please inform me as to your preference. In the meantime, the following information is the best we have to date in response to the questions which you raised:

1. We do not know (and have no means immediately available to estimate) how many people may have lived at Bikini Atoll between 1969 and 1978. When we began field trip visits in 1974, there were approximately 40 people (presumably Trust Territory-employed caretakers and their families) living on Bikini Island. The population grew over subsequent years until August 1978, when all 140 persons then in residence were moved to Kili. We are uncertain about the breakdown, but some of the 140 had land rights on Bikini, while others were T.T. employee families without land rights.
2. In April 1978, the BNL medical team conducted sick call at Bikini Island. At that time, a census was conducted and 135 persons were living on Bikini Island. Some individuals were not present. We estimate that the island population was between 135-145 with 140 as the most probable figure for April 1978. Of the 140 persons, 30 persons were estimated to be less than 5 years old, and 22 persons less than 2 years of age. We have assumed that the number of persons relocated in August 1978 was essentially the population of April 1978.
3. Bob Miltenberger had an opportunity to discuss population statistics on May 19, 1979 with Tomaki Juda (a member of the Kili Council) and Ralph Waltz (a Kili Council spokesman). They stated that during the entire post-testing period during which Bikini was inhabited (-1969 to 1978) only 2 or 3 (extended) families having land rights at Bikini ever lived there. These families comprised about 15% of the total population, the remaining 85% being T.T. employees and their dependents. The following table presents our best information to date in response to your questions 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7.

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Residence Category	Classification	Total ^{1,2} Number of People in Sample Group	Majuro ³		Ejit ³		Kili ³		Jaluit ³
			No. Counted Jan '79	No. Counted May '79	No. Counted Jan '79	No. Counted May '79	No. Counted Jan '79	No. Counted May '79	No. Counted May '79
Prior Resident	T.T. Employee or Dependent	Unknown	37	34	11	9	0	0	17
Relocated	T.T. Employee or Dependent	120	27	24	8	11	1	15	0
Relocated	Bikini Landowner or Dependent	20	0	0	15	13	0	0	0

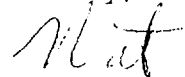
- 1) Due to uncertainty in whether 2 or 3 families with land rights actually resided on Bikini between 1969 and 1978, the values listed could vary by \pm 5 persons.
- 2) Total number of persons reflects persons of all ages. The number of persons counted reflects only those individuals who are 5 years of age or greater.
- 3) Differences between number of persons counted in either January or May and the total number of persons in the population group reflects the number of children less than 5 years of age and the number of people who were unavailable for counting.

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8. Of the 13 people whose ^{37}Cs body burdens exceeded $3 \mu\text{Ci}$ in April 1978, 4 were whole body counted in January 1979, 6 were counted in May 1979, and 1 was counted in both January and May.
- 9, 10. The following is a descriptive breakdown of the 129 people who were counted in May 1979:
- (a) Controls - Six Marshallese subjects who currently live on Majuro, and who (based on interviews) have never resided on Bikini.
 - (b) Jabor Island - Seventeen Bikini "prior residents" who (Jaluit) relocated before 1977.
 - (c) Majuro Island - Thirty-five "prior residents" of Bikini.
 - (d) Majuro Island - Twenty-seven "relocated" residents of Bikini.
 - (e) Ejit Island - Twenty-nine "relocated" residents of Bikini.
11. The difference between the 125 people counted and the 140 people relocated is presumably children under 5 years of age.
12. The percent of population whole body counted which was reported in the Table is based on the ratio of the number of people counted in January and/or May 1979 to the number relocated. Since this later group includes children less than 5 years of age and who are not normally counted, the percent counted will probably never reach 100%. The percent counted to date should remain 67% as reported.
13. The people counted on Majuro, Kili, etc., are not all "relocated" Bikinians. Please see item (3) for details.
14. Whole body counting was performed in individuals 5 years of age or older. All results reported in the May 21 letter to Tom McCraw are for this group. Specifically, "Male" means adult male ages 15 and older; "Female" means adult females ages 15 and older; "Children" means male and female children ages 5 to 14 year of age.

Please call me at FTS 666-4250 or Bob Miltenberger at 666-2503 if we can provide further information or clarification.

Sincerely,



N. A. Greenhouse
Project Manager
BNL Marshall Islands Radio-
logical Safety Program

NAG/slg

cc: A. Hull
E. Lessard
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