

RG 326 (MHS-3 - Radiation Vol. 1)
 AEC Secretariat 1974-1975
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AUG 2 1974

Lt. Gen. Warren D. Johnson, USAF
 Director
 Defense Nuclear Agency

Dear General Johnson:

Thank you for your letter of June 7, 1974, presenting your concerns about the cleanup and rehabilitation of Enewetak Atoll.

As you know, AEC staff is assembling the necessary data and supporting documents as the bases for the Commission's determination of the technical approach, radiological criteria, and specific measures recommended for the cleanup and rehabilitation of the Atoll. The documents include the Enewetak Radiological Survey Report (NV-140) and the AEC Task Group Report, as well as comments which the staff has received, including those from the Department of Defense (DOD), the Department of Interior (DOI), and the Environmental Protection Agency. We intend to make firm recommendations for radiological cleanup and rehabilitation for Enewetak. These should serve as the bases for consultations with the Enewetak people.

The specific concerns which you raise in your letter will be considered by the Commission. I have asked Dr. Liverman to let you read the staff paper presenting the matter for Commission decision. If you would like to meet with members of the Commission before we take final action on this paper, we would be pleased to arrange such a meeting. We will let you and DOI know our decision as soon as possible following Commission action.

I agree with you that a joint trip to the Pacific would be in order following the Commission decision, and I propose that we use the occasion, hopefully the first week in September, for the initial presentation of our reports to the Enewetakese. Quite properly the opening remarks would be made by senior government officials. Unfortunately, I will be unable to attend personally, but an appropriate AEC representative will be designated. This would be followed by presentation by AEC and DNA teams of the AEC Task Group report and whatever material you deem appropriate to describe your proposed Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). We would give the Enewetak people about a day to develop their initial reactions to the reports. Following this, I visualize that the senior representatives would depart leaving the team

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members to conduct more detailed discussions with the people. I agree with you that the AEC guidelines and the DEIS must be consistent. In this same vein, I suggest that we and senior representatives of Interior jointly review the staff briefings about a week in advance to assure a unified U. S. position. If you concur with this concept, I suggest that members of our staffs proceed with arrangements for a joint AEC/DOD/DOI briefing and the trip.

Sincerely,

Original signed by
Dixy Lee Ray
Chairman

bcc: GM
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