

REPOSITORY DOE/PASO  
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 BOX No. 1227; "ERDA # 2"  
BIKINI SURVEY  
 FOLDER NOV & DEC / 1969

December 1, 1969

Mr. Jack A. Tobin  
 Bikini Rehab. Project Coordinator  
 Majuro, Marshall Islands 96960

WATER ANALYSIS - BIKINI ATOLL

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Dear Jack:

This replies to your letter of November 20, 1969, asking for assistance in obtaining a radioactive analysis of Bikini Atoll water samples. I understand that ground water samples were taken last summer during the cleanup operations at the Atoll and that none of the tests showed harmful levels of radioactivity. Detail data concerning the water samples, along with data on samples of vegetation and marine life, are expected to be published before very long.

Frank Cluff and I have discussed your request that additional sampling of the water now be made. We agree samples of the ground water supply should be taken. Also, we believe samples should be taken from the catchment water system on Bikini as well as from the catchment water system on Eniw. The radioactive analysis will be performed by the U. S. Public Health Service as coordinated by Frank Cluff. The results of the analysis will be furnished you by my office.

We are sending you sixteen (16) containers; one (1) funnel; and one (1) gallon of distilled water. We would like a one-gallon sample from each of the sources for radioactive analysis. As I understand it, there is a water catchment system and ground water source on Bikini as well as on Eniw; thus, making a total of four (4) sources. We also suggest you use four (4) of the one-gallon containers for sampling the bacterial content. The remaining eight (8) containers are for spares. The following instructions for collecting all water samples should be carefully observed:

1. The sample containers provided are to be used. Each sample should consist of approximately one-gallon of water which is the volume of each sample container.

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Mr. Jack A. Peltis

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2. The funnel and container used to transfer the water to the sample container should be rinsed with distilled water before each sample is taken.
3. Mark each container with the sample designation, location, date and time of collection. Address labels are attached to each container. The pre-addressed labels should be used for the samples coming to Knoxville. The other labels should be used for the samples going to Bangladesh.
4. At least one sample should be taken from each source of water on Snow and Pickett.
5. Return the samples to be tested for radioactivity as soon as possible after collection.

With regard to sampling the water for bacterial content, I suggest you obtain this analysis at Knoxville. I believe Clinical Associates has the capability for making such tests. As mentioned above, we are sending you sample containers to be used for this purpose. If arrangements for bacterial sampling cannot be worked out at Bangladesh, let us know and we will arrange to have the bacterial testing done in Knoxville.

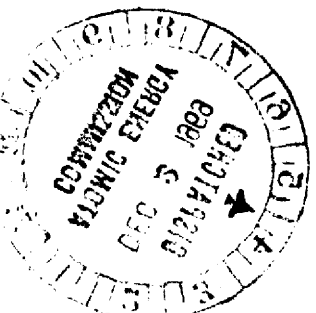
Very truly yours,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY  
WILLIAM A. BONNETT

William A. Bonnett  
Director

EP-1640

cc: Robert D. Low, Jr., District, N.Y.  
E. E. Johnson, Elms, Arden, N.Y.  
Walter Payne, Region, Knoxville  
Frank Cluff, WVOO  
W. D. Smith, Jr., WVOO



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