



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE
FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND 20852

400877

January 24, 1973

R
From
Box # 3108
JOB # 7238

Dr. Nathaniel F. Barr
Asst. Dir. for Measurement & Evaluation
Div. of Biomedical & Environmental Research
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D. C. 20545

Dear Nat:

As I promised I'm jotting down several comments that came to mind at the recent Eniwetok Radiological Assessment Review Group. These comments may or may not prove to be important, but I think that they deserve some further attention and evaluation at this time.

I urge you to obtain some information on the particle size distribution of plutonium in surface soil, particularly in the so called "hot" areas. This information is essential for evaluation of the potential for particle redistribution by wind, and hence in determination of the potential for human inhalation. I would particularly sample those sites at which plutonium deposition originated by processes other than ordinary testing.

Attention should also be directed toward evaluation of radionuclides which although they are not thought to be significant contributors to radiation dose under usual conditions may, because of the magnitude of the test program at Eniwetok have accumulated to a greater extent than in global fallout. Specifically I refer to ¹²⁹I, ³H and ¹⁴C. Sampling and evaluation of these radionuclides need not be extensive unless a real problem is indicated by the initial results.

Best personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

Bernie
Bernard Shleien
Assistant to the Director
Program Office
Bureau of Radiological Health

*Nat - the state of my understanding
approximate composition at the present
time is as follows: (1) particles
size dist of dirt in air, and (2) particles
size of air particles with activity by size in soil samples, &
(3) for activity as a factor of depth in soil, and (4) for total airborne
dirt as total of wind + soil maintenance. I'd say you need
which should help off this. I don't see
a number of things to do I'd like to do.*

00687

5005772

