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Department of Energy
Pacific Area Support Office
P. O. Box 29939
Honolulu, Hawaii 96820

JAN 24 1980

Honorable Adrian P. Winkel
High Commissioner
Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950

Dear Mr. Winkel,

PER DIEM CLAIMS TO RONGELAPESE AND UTIRIKESE UNDER TTPI PL. 5-52 AND
TTPI-DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AGREEMENT NO. EY-76-A-28-3159, MODIFICATION
NO. 3

Recently the Magistrate of Utirik came to Honolulu to ask us why per diem claims for medical referrals under above referenced agreements had not been paid. Yesterday we received a call from Dr. Hugh Pratt of Brookhaven National Laboratory who is on Kwajalein preparing for the annual full scale medical trip to Rongelap and Utirik. He reported that some of the people on Ebeye had asked about the same thing. Earlier in the week he had been on Majuro where the Utirik Magistrate confronted him, again on the same issue. While Brookhaven has nothing to do with the issue per se, their close association with the effected people invariably draw them into problems of this kind.

We recognize that having Brookhaven in this position could lead to problems not of their making, which in turn could disrupt their efforts to provide the kind of care set forth in our 1977 agreement with you. To help relieve them of the burden of having to respond to DOE issues not directly related to their program efforts we are providing a DOE Representative on selected missions in the Marshall Islands.

Harry Brown has been designated as DOE Representative on this upcoming trip and will be on Kwajalein January 26. Dr. Pratt has asked that Harry meet with those people on Ebeye who are asking questions concerning DOE activities.

Prior to that happening, it is appropriate that we attempt to bring you up to date on the issue of outstanding unpaid claims. Our cables 270130Z Aug 78; 020030Z Sept 78; 120030Z Sept 78; and 160050Z Sept 78; and your 290928Z Sept 78 (all attached) pretty much spell out the story. Basically we have been asking that you send DOE/PASO an invoice and supporting documents for claims which have not been paid by TTPI and

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Mr. W. W. [unclear]
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reimbursed by DOE under our agreement. Per Mr. Rodger Cotting's letter of May 2, 1978, (copy attached) and meetings held in Majuro, we were advised that there might be unpaid claims between \$40 and \$60 thousand. We advised that we had \$45 thousand in hand to reimburse TTPI but to date we have received no invoice. The cable 290928Z Sept indicated to us that the then Acting Director of Operations may have had a misunderstanding of the problem. It is of course up to the TTPI to "process claims documents".

I don't know at this point what else we can do except to reiterate to you the DOE commitment to pay these claims and that \$45 thousand is available at PASO awaiting claims documents. (This basically is what we told the Utirik Magistrate.) DOE Headquarters recently paid \$22,321 to the TTPI against an invoice of \$24,365 and this was the final payment from them since the remaining funds for this purpose have been transferred to our office.

When we address the issue to the Marshallese people who come under this agreement or have unpaid claims, we most certainly want to let them know that efforts are ongoing to pay these claims. From our point of view it would be very helpful to hear from you soon as to when the documents might be ready for us to review and pay. In view of the short time available to both of us to coordinate our thoughts on this problem, I have asked Harry to check in with Scott Stege when he arrives on Kwajalein and review the TTPI position with him.

In the meantime, the Department of Energy continues to put together a draft agreement to replace EY-76-A-28-3159. This will to a great extent track with TTPI PL. 7-116 which in effect replaced PL. 5-52. We hope to have that completed and ready for signature within the next 60 days.

Sincerely,

Original Signed By
W. J. STANLEY

W. J. Stanley
Director

OP-068
HUB: idh

Attachments:

1. TWX 270130Z Aug 78
2. TWX 020030Z Sept 78
3. TWX 120030Z Sept 78
4. TWX 160050Z Sept 78
5. TWX 290928Z Sept 78
6. Mr. R. Cotting's ltr. dtd. 5/2/78

cc: Roger Ray, APO/NV, w/attachs
DISTAD Majuro, w/attachs
Terry Garrett, Fin.Div., HQ/TTPI
Saipan, w/attachs
Scott Stege, TTPI/LNO Kwajalein,
w/attachs
Dr. Walter Weyzen, DOE/Washington,
w/o attachs

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