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Safety & Environmental Protection Division

October 31, 1978

Dr. Shun'ichi Hisamatsu
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Hondo 1-1-1, Akita 010

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Dear Dr. Hisamatsu:

Your paper, which appeared in the Health Physics Journal, Vol. 35, August 1978, is indeed fascinating and of extreme use to those persons engaged in understanding the distribution of fallout material. I congratulate you and your colleague, Dr. Sakanoue.

We are at present, trying to go back to March 1, 1954 and trying to estimate the kind of exposure (doses) that the people on the islands did receive by analyzing the samples collected at the time from the inhabited islands of Rongelap, Utirik and Rongerik for ^{129}I . However, these samples are inherently diluted by the large amount of soil present thus making the determination of ^{129}I rather tenuous. Reading your paper and recognizing that virgin fallout material is available prompted me to write to you and inquire a) whether it could be possible for this laboratory to get from you or whoever has jurisdiction over this "Bikini Ash" a few grams (~3g) for ^{129}I analysis; or b) whether I could request that you or some other scientist in Japan do an ^{129}I analysis for us.

We would be most happy to share our findings on ^{129}I in the soil samples from these islands and hopefully come out with a meaningful dose pattern estimate.

Thank you .

Yours truly,

Janakiram R. Naidu, Ph.D.
Ecologist

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