

Mr. Bryant S. Zebedy
Legislative Secretary
Marshall Islands Nitijela
Post Office Box 24
Majuro, Marshall Islands 96960

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Dear Mr. Zebedy:

The certified copy of Resolution No. 29-ND-1 of the Marshall Islands Nitijela which you forwarded to the Administrator of the Energy Research and Development Administration (ERDA) has been received. We thank you for sending us this copy of the Resolution and are pleased that the people of the Marshall Islands appreciate and have confidence in the medical program of ERDA to the extent expressed by the Resolution.

As you know, ERDA and its predecessor, the Atomic Energy Commission, have had a medical program, carried out by our Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL), since 1954. This program has been conducted with the cooperation of the Department of Health Services, Government of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. Our present program provides an annual major medical visit and quarterly follow-up visits from the resident physician at Kwajalein. This year we have lengthened the visits to provide time for all residents, particularly at Utirik, to be seen by the physicians if they desire. However, we have no present plans to extend the medical program to include additional general medical care outside the times of the scheduled visits. We can assure you that when treatment of radiation related injury in the United States is deemed necessary, it will be the best possible, whether it is on the mainland or in Hawaii. While ERDA has provided these medical visits, the general medical care remains a responsibility of the Government of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. We at ERDA are, nevertheless, proud of the BNL medical team and the fact that they have been successful over the years in enlisting the assistance of experts from various medical centers throughout the United States to assist them in their work.

We will be glad to meet with representatives of the Nitijela and further discuss the Resolution if they should so desire.

Sincerely,

James L. Liverman
Assistant Administrator
for Environment and Safety

Addresses for ccs:

Mr. Oscar DeBrum
District Administrator, Marshalls
Majuro, Marshall Islands 96950

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

Mrs. Ruth G. Van Cleve
Director, Office of
Territorial Affairs
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240