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UNITED STATES
ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION
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ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION
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Attendees of the Marshall Island Workshop
Livermore, California - June 27-29, 1977

At the Marshall Island Workshop several of you expressed concern over the planned criteria and cleanup activities scheduled for Enewetak Atoll in the near future. This concern led to an unsigned "statement of concern" being sent to Dr. Liverman through me. I thought you might be interested in what took place regarding this matter after our meeting.

In response to these expressed concerns, Dr. Bruce W. Wachholz was requested by Dr. Liverman to arrange for an immediate review of the adequacy of both the cleanup criteria and the crater disposal plans, together with any appropriate recommendations. This review was held August 15-17, 1977, at the Nevada Operations Office. A list of the review group chaired by Dr. William J. Bair, Battelle-Northwest, is enclosed. Briefings of the background of the guidance, of the current situation, and of proposed plans were presented by ERDA Headquarters personnel, by Nevada Operations Office personnel, and by Defense Nuclear Agency Headquarters and Field Command personnel. Opinions of all interested parties were freely discussed.

Considering all factors the review group unanimously found that both the cleanup criteria and the disposal plan were adequate and that neither would result in unacceptable health and environmental risks. Further, they reaffirmed the reasonableness of such activities. Consequently, following this review Dr. Liverman feels that plans should proceed as anticipated.

We hope that this review, a direct result of the Livermore Workshop, will help to assure you that all aspects of the situation have been considered not only by the several interested agencies and their staffs, but also by a group of laboratory experts covering a variety of disciplines and experience. This review has helped to reassure us that our goals and plans are appropriate ones, and we trust that you also will be reassured that your concerns were recognized and addressed.

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Deputy Director
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Enclosure:
As stated

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APPENDIX

PARTICIPANTS IN REVIEW OF ENEWETAK CLEAN-UP CRITERIA AND DISPOSAL

NEVADA OPERATIONS OFFICE, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

August 15-18, 1977

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