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

APR 25 1978

Mr. Charles R. Renda Regional Solicitor Sacramento Region Office of the Solicitor U.S. Department of Interior 2800 Cottage Way, Room E-2753 Sacramento, CA 95825

Dear Chuck:

Thanks very much for the data on the Regional Committee for Territorial Assistance. After studying the background and Charter of both the Washington Committee and your Regional policy implementing counterpart, it is obvious that this approach will be most welcome to the Territories. Of particular interest to us, of course, is the expected long term DOE relationship with the Marshall Islands as we set forth in our briefing to you and Bill Arntz.

Naturally, we were pleased to hear that there has been an agreement in principle between the United States and the Micronesian Status Negotiators on the framework for their future political relationship(s) with us and other governments. We would expect that after the July 12 referendum results on the <u>Constitution of the Federated</u> States of Micronesia, there will immediately be a series of talks designed to detail the terms of this agreement and to begin a transition period to smooth the way into this new relationship. Obviously the role of the Committees will be that of very active participants in the many decisions to be made and implemented during this period. In that connection, it may be that we can be of some assistance in the "non-energy" program areas of DOE. If so, we will be happy to do what we can.

Again, we appreciated having you here with Bill, and for your obvious interest in our Pacific function. We, too, welcome the opportunity to work with you in areas of mutual interest.

Sincerely, Original Signed By W. J. STANLEY W. J. Stanley Director

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bc: Roger Ray, APO, w/cy of May 23 and March 20 correspondence

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