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FEB 1969

Honorable Walter J. Hickel
Secretary of the Interior

Dear Mr. Hickel:

This is in response to former Secretary Udall's letter of January 17, 1969, on the Bikini resettlement program. I am pleased to say that the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) will cooperate with the Departments of the Interior and Defense in the cleanup of the Bikini Atoll. The Commission will provide \$300,000 in fiscal year 1969 for this purpose.

The AEC will be responsible for the radiological health and safety aspects of the program. It is my understanding that the Department of Defense would like to manage the cleanup efforts in coordination with the AEC. The AEC has no objections to this arrangement providing the total AEC cost does not exceed \$300,000.

Cordially,

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

(Signed) Glenn T. Seaborg

Chairman

cc: Honorable Melvin R. Laird
Secretary of Defense

so&cc: Addressee

- cc: Hon. M. R. Laird, Sec. of Defense
- 2cc: OCR
- 2cc: Chairman
- cc: Comm Ramey
- cc: Comm Tape
- cc: Comm Johnson
- cc: Comm Costagliola
- 2cc: Gen Mgr
- cc: EAGM
- cc: DGM

- 2cc: Secretariat
- cc: Dir Ref
- cc: OS
- cc: BM
- 5cc: Std DMA

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