

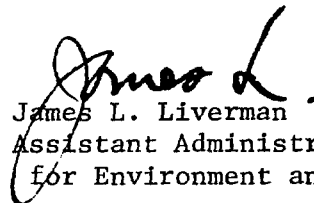
Chairman
Transuranium Technical Group
Battelle
Pacific Northwest Laboratories
Battelle Boulevard
Richland, Washington 99352

I value having the recommendations transmitted by your letter of January 12, which were based on TTG's review of information relevant to observations of Pu in the urine of Bikini residents.

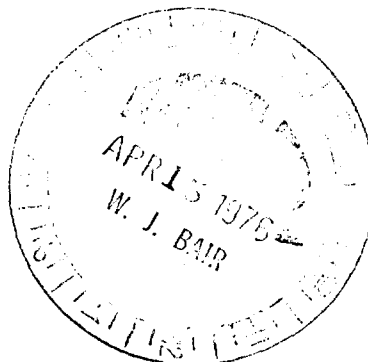
We plan to obtain urine samples collected as you recommend and are considering initiating an independent assessment of the plutonium body burdens expected for residents of Bikini. We are glad to have your confirmation that potential health consequences associated with the range of possible plutonium body burdens is very small and agree that specific estimates of potential health consequences should be deferred until data are improved.

Thank you for your prompt review and recommendations on this matter. We will keep TTG informed of significant developments.

Sincerely,


James L. Liverman
Assistant Administrator
for Environment and Safety

cc: A. G. Fremling, RL



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Reviewed by R. Schmitt Date 4/30/97
