



CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950

401395

May 23, 1975

SPECIAL JOINT COMMITTEE
CONCERNING RONGELAP &
UTIRIK ATOLLS

Senator Olympio T. Borja, Chairman
Rep. John Haglelgam
Representative Ataji Balos

Dr. James L. Liverman
Assistant Administrator for
Environment and Safety
Energy Research and Development
Administration
Washington, D.C. 20545

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Dear Dr. Liverman:

As you may be aware, members of the Special Joint Committee Concerning Rongelap and Utirik Atolls have been visiting members of the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate, May 13-23, concerning additional compensation for those Marshallese exposed to radioactive fallout from the March 1, 1954 thermonuclear detonation at Bikini Atoll.

In this connection, we are attaching a copy of our letter to Mr. Emmett Rice, Acting Director of the Office of Territorial Affairs which we believe is self-explanatory and which summarizes our efforts here in Washington, D.C.

As mentioned in this letter, we have have obtained a copy of your August 7, 1974 letter to Mr. Thomas S. Dunmire, Staff Consultant to the Committee on Territorial and Insular Affairs of the House of Representatives in which on behalf of the Atomic Energy Commission you indicated that the Agency supported the concept of additional compensation for the people of Rongelap and Utirik.

Our reason for contacting you on this subject is to inquire if the Energy Research and Development Administration as successor to the AEC will also support additional compensation. Therefore we would like to solicit ERDA's response if the position is unchanged, or if it will be reviewed in conjunction with our request to Interior Department officials for a position and draft legislation.

5009829

Page 2

Dr. James L. Liverman

We have appreciated your assistance and support of our work in the past, and look forward to a cooperative working relationship in the future with regard to this matter. If there is any information or assistance we can provide for you or ERDA, please notify us at your earliest convenience.

Very truly yours,

SENATOR OLYMPIO T. BORJA

5009830