



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

July 1, 2003

The Honorable James Matayoshi
Mayor
Rongelap Atoll Local Government
P.O. Box 1766
Majuro, Marshall Islands 96960

Dear Mayor Matayoshi:

We were pleased to hear Rongelap Atoll Local Government's (RALGOV) plans to build the first 20 new homes on Rongelap Island. As discussed during the recent annual meeting in San Francisco, California, we suggest you may wish to consider adding the site preparation costs into the total costs for the loans you are seeking from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. In accordance with the U.S. Department of Energy Support Plan for our Memorandum of Understanding with RALGOV, Dr. Terry Hamilton of the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory will be prepared to take environmental measurements after site preparations are completed.

During the meeting, Dr. Hamilton shared his thoughts on a practical approach that you may wish to consider in addressing the long-term remediation plan for the agricultural areas on Rongelap Island. This has the potential for reducing your community's costs for resettlement. I have enclosed a copy of Dr. Hamilton's letter for your consideration. We look forward to the continued success of RALGOV's resettlement efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steven V. Cary".

Steven V. Cary
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Health Studies

Enclosure

