



EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS

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Paul J. Seligman, M.D., M.P.H.
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health Studies
Department of Energy
19901 Germantown Road
Germantown, Maryland 20874-1290

Dear Dr. Seligman:

Thank you for your letter of today informing that you would not be able to meet on the proposed dates. I would like to advise you that the RMI Government along with the four atoll leadership have been very much looking forward to attending this annual meeting. In fact, travel plans have already been confirmed for these dates regardless of the fact flights out of Majuro are proven difficult to make these days. It would be a step back should we decide to defer the meeting to a later time.

Given the fact that our leaders will be preoccupied with the upcoming reelections and the Compact renegotiations process in October, I think any later dates will be in conflict with the RMI. As we discussed, several RMI Government officials will be in Hawaii for other meetings and if we could combine our meetings into one trip, this will be beneficial for all participants. Since you are on route from your meetings in Japan on June 17th, I do not see why it would not be possible for you and your colleagues to wait a couple of days to meet.

I have discussed this new development with both the Minister of Foreign Affairs and some of the four atoll leaders and they have reaffirmed their wish to meet again this year with DOE. They have in affect proposed that we move up the dates to June 21-22.

I hope you will reconsider your decision to delay the meeting until October. I look forward to discussing this matter further with you before I leave this week to the islands.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Banny deBrum', written over a horizontal line.

Banny deBrum
Ambassador