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ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLING AT EPG

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The Support Contractor at EPG has conducted a limited environmental sampling program on Eniwetok and Bikini Atolls during previous interim periods. Gross beta activity was determined on selected samples of fish, plant life, rain and sea water.

It is proposed to broaden the Support Contractor's testing program to include a limited fission product separation on soil, marine life and vegetation plus urinalysis, when indicated, for gross alpha. The Holmes & Narver Rad-Safety Officer is a competent radiochemist and this program would be carried out under his jurisdiction. A single channel analyzer has been purchased for Operation Hardtack and will be available to Holmes & Narver during the interim period. Further, Task Group 7.1 has two rad-chemistry trailers at EPG, and arrangements could be made to have one of these trailers left at Site Elmer during the interim period if the need can be justified. Laboratory procedures used by Dr. Donaldson's group will be utilized.

More specifically we have in mind conducting the following sampling:

Routinely on a monthly basis: Water, for gross beta, then fission product separation.

Fish, for gross beta, then fission product separation.

Plants, for gross beta, then fission product separation.

Special: Soil sampling, Sr 90, and to study seepage of radioactive particles into coral sand.

Bottom sampling, alpha, beta and fission products, particularly from locations where one-points have been detonated.

Urinalysis, gross alpha.

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Dr. C. L. Dunham

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While this program has been discussed at some length by Mr. Goeke with Mr. Klement at EPG, I would like to have your comments on this proposal. We do not want to duplicate any work that is presently sponsored by DEM, but it is felt that this type of datum would be extremely helpful in Task Group 7.5 operations.

An early reply would be appreciated since a very limited time remains to obtain the approval of JTF SEVEN for retaining the rad-chemistry trailer at EPG.

CC: Mr. A. Klement, DEM Rep, EPG  
Mr. C. Minkinnen, H&M Rep, EPG  
Roscoe H. Goeke, EPG

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