

It is my hope that we can keep the Enewetakese from living on Enjebi once they are resettled on the other nearby islands.

I understand your staff will present to the Commission some arguments we have raised; thus, the Commission should receive the advantage of different viewpoints. I want to assure you that I will not contest the standards recommended by the Commission. However, I hope they will consider the entire problem: biological - political - and fiscal, as well as the social and economic effects on the Enewetakese people if the standards are such that we cannot resettle them on one of their major home islands. Finally, I am sure that the Commission will want to assure itself that marginal health benefits do not override the substantial benefits the Enewetakese would enjoy from more complete use of their land.

Once these decisions are reached they must be explained to the Enewetakese. They must understand any constraints as well as the fact the project is subject to Congressional approbation. Perhaps that might prompt the trip I previously suggested we make jointly to Enewetak. Of course, we would also want to invite the appropriate official from the Department of the Interior.

I will look forward to discussion of this matter after the Commission has considered it. Meanwhile, the staff and resources of DNA are available if further information is required in the decision-making process.

Regards,


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Director