



RP

# University of Hawaii at Manoa

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May 2, 1983

RP:0024

District Engineer (PODCO-O)  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Building 230  
Ft. Shafter, Hawaii 96858

Dear Sir/Madam:

PODCO-O 1726-S  
Fill at Lelu Bay for Cooking House  
Lelu, Kosrae, East Caroline Islands  
Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands

The Environmental Center has received PODCO permit notice 1726-S concerning a proposed fill action on the island of Kosrae. We note that the requested permit is for another landfill action in the coastal waters of an island in the Trust Territories. In our letter of April 26, 1983 we emphasized the need for a regional evaluation of these islands to determine where landfill operations would be least environmentally destructive yet able to meet the needs of the relatively impoverished families requesting permission to construct foundations for their homes. This new request, however, is quite different in that it is requesting landfill to expand a commercial operation.

We are not familiar with the specific environmental setting on the island of Kosrae where this landfill action is requested, hence it is not possible for us to evaluate the impacts of the requested activity. We are concerned, however, that the decision to permit any filling of the coastal waters of Pacific islands, especially for a commercial venture, be made only after a full assessment of the environmental effects of such filling, ideally on a regional basis.

As always, we would be happy to discuss this matter further or provide any assistance possible.

Yours truly,

Doak C. Cox  
Director

cc: Jacquelin Miller  
Lee Hannah