



**REPUBLIC OF THE MARSHALL ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
MINISTRY OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**

P.O. Box 16 ~ Majuro ~ Marshall Islands ~ 96960

Tel. No. (692) 625-5327

Email: sechhs.rmi@gmail.com



Thursday, August 15, 2019

Manhattan Project Beer Company, Misty Sanford, co-founder and co-owner

Iakwe Misty,

It has come to my attention that your company, The Manhattan Beer Project, has produced a beer product named “Bikini Atoll.” I have also read online what you call your “One and only public statement” declaring that your beer was “not created to trivialize the nuclear testing that took place in the Marshall Islands.” Unfortunately, that is exactly what your product does: The bottom line is your product makes fun of a horrific situation here in the Marshall Islands—a situation, that I promise you is still ongoing—to make money for your company. This is unacceptable to us.

As Secretary of Health & Human Services of the Marshall Islands you should understand the amount of pain and suffering those U.S. weapons tests have caused—and that are still causing—the people of the Marshall Islands, and more specifically, the people of Bikini Atoll. I know of this suffering firsthand as I worked for the people Bikini Atoll as their advocate for over 30 years, and moreover, my wife of 30 years is a Bikini islander, we have 5 children and 4 grandchildren, all Bikinians: And now they have to read about how their beloved homeland, poisoned forever by the United States government, has a beer named after it. As their advocate for many years one of my most important roles was to eulogize our elders each and every time they passed away. These were people who had suffered horrifically at the hands of your government. All of our elders were very religious, if they heard that today an American company has named a beer after their homeland, islands that are cherished as if they were human beings and that are considered as “Gifts from God,” they would be appalled and thoroughly disgusted.

As a nation, the people of the Marshall Islands have one of the highest cancer rates in the world, all of our families can tell a personal cancer story that often times can be traced directly to the nuclear testing period, my family included. On their behalf, and on behalf of the people of the Marshall Islands, I highly encourage you to discard this ill-conceived product forever, and moreover, I believe you need to issue a public apology to our people.

Ilo kautiej,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jack Niedenthal'.

Jack Niedenthal

Republic of the Marshall Islands

Secretary of Health & Human Services