

NATIONAL RADIO ASTRONOMY OBSERVATORY  
Charlottesville, Virginia

August 15, 1985

TO: VLBA Members

FROM: Buck Peery

SUBJECT: Conf./Site Meeting 850731

PRESENT: Benson, Brundage, Crane, Hogg, Napier, Oty, Romney,  
Wade, Peery

Site design and arrangements for utilities for the Pie Town site are progressing with a target to start the construction this fall. No major problems, except for costs, are evident at this time.

Soil tests are underway on Kitt Peak. It has just been learned that the U.S. Weather Service is installing one megawatt transmitters (2.7 and 2.9 GHz) near Kitt Peak and Flagstaff, Arizona. Crane will investigate through the frequency coordinators in the southwest. There are seventeen being installed. Other locations are not known.

The topo and boundary survey is in progress at the Los Alamos site. A request for title to the property will be initiated as soon as this is available.

RFI tests are complete in Washington state (Okanogan Valley). There are no problems with RFI. The process of establishing the exact location is underway. A survey and securing title to the property will follow. Napier, Oty and Wade reported on their visit to the COMSAT station at Brewster and the Okanogan Valley. They were well received. The people at COMSAT provided considerable information and help. They are very interested in our project and in helping us get established there.

There is no activity relative to the fort Davis site. The next step will be establishing the exact location and having a survey made. No problems are expected.

We are awaiting information from our contacts in St. Croix before taking further action there. This should be received soon.

There is no activity relative to the Iowa site. The prospective sites are on Corp of Engineers property and no problems are expected.

RFI tests will be made in Owens Valley at the Owens Valley Radio Observatory within the next few weeks. There is no alternate location for RFI tests to be made in that area.

There is much concern as to the exact location for the Hawaii site. It is recommended that the RFI trailer be sent to Hawaii as soon as possible to make tests at three prospective locations. Napier, Oty, and Wade will review the political situation and logistic problems and make a decision on how to proceed, what to take and how to get it there.

RFI tests were to be made in Massachusetts this fall. It was thought this could be delayed if the Hawaii test could be scheduled. The RFI test would start with Quabbin (Five College Radio Observatory) and the results there would determine how to proceed.

Romney requested anyone having topics, relative to the sites, that should be discussed at the September review meeting get them in as soon as possible so they can be on the agenda. Please call Romney, Wade or Peery.

Crane advised he would have the memo, which will serve as a hand out to frequency coordinators, out soon.