

REGULATORY COMMITTEE

5th MARCH 2003

**BOSCOMBE DOWN: MINISTRY OF DEFENCE -
EXPLOSIVES FACTORY LICENCE**

Purpose of Report

1. To ask the Committee to appoint Members and to name the Chairman to serve on the Explosives Panel to hear an application for Assent for an Explosives Factory Licence.

Background

2. Members will recall that the Committee, on 18th December 2002, resolved:-
 - (i) *To appoint Mrs. N.S. Bryant, Mr. M. Connolly and Mr. P.R. Davis to serve on the Explosives Panel to hear the application by Millennium Pyrotechnics Limited for assent for an Explosives Factory Licence.*
 - (ii) *To name Mrs. N.S. Bryant as Chairman of the Panel.*
3. The applicant, QinetiQ Limited of Cody Technology Park, Building A1, Ively Road, Farnborough, Hampshire, is the privatised arm of the Ministry of Defence (MoD). As this is a transfer of Crown Property to a private company, a factory licence is now required.
4. The applicant currently stores explosives at Boscombe Down, but this is under a dispensation from the Health and Safety Executive provided it continues to store to MoD standards.

Details of Application

5. The applicant has applied to the Health and Safety Executive for an Explosives Factory Licence and this has been granted initial approval.
6. Notices of the hearing will be published, as required by the Explosives Acts 1875 and 1923.

Environmental Impact of the Recommendation

7. None.

Reason for Recommendation

8. To respond to an application for an Explosives Factory Licence.

Recommendation

9. That the Committee:-

- (i) Agrees the size and names the Members to serve on the Explosives Panel to hear the application for Assent by QinetiQ Limited;
- (ii) Names the Chairman of the Panel;
- (iii) Agrees a date to hear the application; and
- (iv) Considers, in the light of at least two more factory assents requiring determination in the near future, appointing the Explosives Panel on a permanent basis.

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The following unpublished documents have been relied on in the preparation this Report:

None