

Meeting held at QinetiQ MoD Eskmeals

(S) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Dstl Environmental Sciences Department Principal Scientist
[REDACTED] MoD SO2 RAD (CESOA)
[REDACTED] MoD KTA Commanding Officer

[REDACTED]	MoD TEST Team
[REDACTED]	MoD DSEA
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	MoD DIO
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]	MoD DSEA
[REDACTED]	MoD DIO
[REDACTED]	MoD TEST Team

Item	Discussion and decisions	Actions
1.	<p>Introduction</p> <p>█████ welcomed everyone to the DUFERC.</p>	
2.	<p>Apologies</p> <p>█████ gave the apologies from those not attending.</p>	
3.	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p>Action 59.1 █████ to send a copy of the new DUFERC ToR to Test Team (subject to completion of action 59.4)</p> <p>Action 59.2 █████ to submit the new DUFERC ToR to the next meeting of the RPPDC (subject to completion of action 59.4)</p> <p>Action 59.3 █████ to seek clarification from the RPPDC regarding the hierarchy of the CESOs in the DSEA.</p> <p>█████ submitted to the committee an article produced by █████ in Army Safety & Environment Matters – Issue 43.</p> <p>█████ explained that following the reorganisation of the MoD █████ (the head of Corporate Policy and Assurance, formally SSD&C) has suggested that the DUFERC should report to him through the RPPDC. This would have the advantage of replacing the committee's direct link to the senior levels that was lost with the winding of the DUWG.</p> <p>If this is acceptable to the committee the DUFERC ToR should be amended and he will submit them to the RPPDC on the 16th Feb for ratification.</p> <p>Action 59.4 █████ to circulate the new draft ToR for all DUFERC members</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Action closed</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

to review and report back before the next meeting.

Action closed

Action 59.5 Action 59.1 [redacted] to seek guidance from [redacted] (SC) re the precedent being set by EA requiring a permit for contaminated items at Eskmeals.

[redacted] reported that he has spoken about this matter to the DSTL Radioactive Waste Advisor (SC) and the Dstl view is that Para 2.32 of the "Guidance on Scope of and Exemption from Radioactive Substances Legislation in the UK" applies and therefore these items, under present conditions are not radioactive material.

[redacted] agreed that this was QinetiQ interpretation and agreed to carry the matter forward with MoD.

[redacted] agreed this approach but added that if not successful DSTL would need to escalate the matter to a more senior "policy level" within the EA
New Action - [redacted] to progress with EA.

New Action

Action 59.6 [redacted] to discuss progress re the AMEC VJ Decommissioning Survey.

Ongoing

[redacted] Stated that he was concerned that no progress was being made as he had not seen any results from this survey

The committee agreed that no members present had seen the results or any report on the outcome of the survey. [redacted] took an action to contact the AMEC project manager

New Action - [redacted] to contact [redacted]

New Action

4. **DUFERC ToR**

[redacted] reported that he had received all of the responses from the committee and that an up to date draft was now available for the committee

[redacted] Pointed out that there would need to be some further amendment in line with [redacted] recommendation that he would no longer be part of the DUFERC and the committee should reported to the CPA through the RPPDC.

He added that Para 7 should read "thorough" (not through). Para 23 SSDC should be DSEA Corporate Policy and Assurance (CPA).

[redacted] said that this would be swept up within action 59.4

Ongoing

5. **[redacted] Paper**

[redacted] reported that he had been in contact with Manchester University and they had informed him that [redacted] had now completed his first year Ph d report outlining the progress that he had made in the study into land remediation on DU contaminated sites.

[redacted] had given permission to release the paper and [redacted] submitted it to the committee

[redacted] commented that it contained fairly specialised language and was not in the most readable format so [redacted] took an action to produce a summary of the report that was understandable to the lay members of the committee

[redacted] to produce Executive Summary of the report

New Action

[redacted] reported that he had raised the matter of updating the Eskmeals (VJ) monitoring protocol with the Eskmeals RPA [redacted]. The RPA had sent [redacted] an email to submit to the DUFERC stating he felt that the existing monitoring programme had been established in the early 1990s during the DU firing programme and was no longer suitable for monitoring emissions from care and maintenance, legacy contamination and decommissioning

■ circulated the content of ■ email to the committee.
■ expanded on the Email explaining that not only was the existing protocol inappropriate to current use it was also the case that the science of environmental sampling had advanced and that some of the indicators in use had now fallen out of favour as more appropriate migration routes had been identified.

■ agreed and pointed out that the sampling programme for KTC had been reviewed and the onus was now on dispersion into waterways.

■ agreed this proposal and took an action with ■ to take action to produce a proposed programme

■ - Grass Sampling

New Action ■ - To consult on updating the sampling programme with DSTL

New Action

■ asked if the above was related to a remediation plan

■ stated that it was related but it was a concern of his the to the best of his knowledge there was not a remediation plan for VJ although this was strictly in the remit of the DIO

■ stated that he was not clear about what was the remit of the DIO or even what the DIO was.

■ - Explained that the DIO had replaced DE

■ continued that it was important that VJ had a remediation plan even if it were an outline plan such as the one held by ■ for KTC

■ agreed that that should be achievable and took an action to ensure one was in place

New Action - ■ - To produce Eskmeals (VJ) Remediation Plan

New Action

6. Eskmeals Report

From ■
EA

QinetiQ is going to purchase a nuclear soil density gauge for trials use which will be stored at VJ Battery in the source store. This requires us to have a Cat 4 permit.

The application generated an EA audit just before Christmas which was followed by a further audit on January 13th.

Since the audit all of the local rules and Prior Risk Assessments have been updated as they highlighted some minor issues as to how the documents tied up with the new EPR 11 regulations and our own company P236 document.

We currently hold a Cat 5 registration; however the sealed radioactive sources that we hold are exempt under EPR and therefore we are cancelling the Cat 5 registration.

At the audit ■ requested that the EA inspector re look at the permit to hold the two titanium blocks as under the EPR the blocks should not require a permit to be held. The inspector has agreed to this and we await a response.

If the EA are in agreement this reduces our authorisation to one Cat 4.

VJ Facility

The pre fabricated buildings that form the control to VJ battery have had some serious maintenance work done on them which should ensure that they will remain fit for purpose for a few more years and the building which houses the radioactive sources has been re-floored and re-roofed.

asked if would removing Cat 5 cause any problems with MoD trials e.g. MLRS

replied that as any MoD equipment that needed a mobile permit should already have one that should be extant on the site on which it is being used.

said that this may be the case but there might be difficulties as the MoD worked from EA "Noting Letters" rather than permits however the Eskmeals range was in effect MoD property so it should be acceptable –he did however take an action to clarify the issue with DSTLs RWA

New Action – to speak to concerning MOD/QinetiQ/EA interface

New Action

7. Kirkcudbright Report

reported that had carried out a routine inspection of the fences surrounding the contaminated areas at India Target and Raeberry

To assist Eskmeals loan and administer two radiation monitoring instruments and he had been received two replacements for those returned for calibration from .

asked if one of those instruments was the Exploranium that he had recommended to as a useful instrument for locating DU fragments.

confirmed that it was but added that had not yet had the opportunity to try it out.

continued that (DTE) Had visited KTC to look at the DU contaminated areas and his new regional manager had expressed desire to remediate all DU areas – so more areas for troops. It was generally agreed by the committee that while this was laudable was unlikely to have sufficient budget to finance this work went on to report that emailed (DIO) discussing the high cost of remediation

agreed and stated that a phased approach would be best.

added that he thought that would was considering putting some remediation into next year's work.

stated that he personally would be retiring on the 29th Feb 2012 and that likely to replace him as the DUFERC member for KTC Next terrestrial marine survey to take place 17-24 June 2012.

8. DSTL Report DSTL REPORT FOR DUFERC – JAN 2012

Parliamentary, Media and Public Enquiries

MOD announced that statements concerning the existence of a UK study on the legality of DU munitions were incorrect and that a study into this would now be carried out. There is confidence that this formal study will endorse earlier verbal advice that use of DU munitions is "legal".

Revision of the MOD web site was delayed by the legality review mentioned above.

MOD have no plans to commission any further studies on DU munitions health risks although they will maintain a watching brief on developments. This will include limited informal liaison/discussions with allies.

There was media speculation about future DU testing at Kirkcudbright.

An ex-MSP who had previously corresponded with Ministers produced a media article criticising the MOD. The existence of radium contamination at a former MOD site at Dalgety Bay was compared to the use of DU munitions in Iraq.

Freedom of Information

Copies of MOD advice to humanitarian agencies were provided following the request reported at the last DUFERC meeting.

MOD confirmed that a Life Extension Programme was being developed for CHARM 3 and that the Challenger 2 hull and turret would need to be reconfigured if smoothbore barrels were introduced.

Personal Monitoring

A soldier who had been involved in a DU munitions incident requested information on the intake and any associated risk.

Environmental Monitoring and Remediation

The Eskmeals monitoring report was finalised and issued on 9 Jan 12.

Dstl supplied information to assist in land management planning for Kirkcudbright.

Technical Issues - DU

There is ongoing interest in DU remediation by microbes as well as in the remediation by plants being researched at Eskmeals.

There is continuing MOD concern about proposals for new dose limits for the eye. The topic will be raised during a cross-government meeting on the development of the EU Basic Safety Standards on 25 Jan 12.

SEPA have formed an independent expert group to advise on the health risks from radioactive objects at Dalgety Bay. As for the Sellafield work reported at the last DUFERC meeting, this is of interest as methods for assessing the risks from inhomogeneous contamination of the type arising from DU munitions are not well developed.

■ Advised [redacted] that following the enquiry from the Red Cross concerning training for handling DU he had recommended that the contact [redacted].

■ Expanded on [redacted] comment regarding replacement of DU munitions that replacement CHARM 2 was likely to be a tungsten alloy

There was some discussion concerning the use of microbes to digest DU to chemically alter pollutants and whether this was a research possibility?

████ stated that there was to be an HSE sponsored meeting concerning New European Safety Limits – Meeting 25 Jan 2012

████ Stated that the Dalgety Bay report due out soon

9. Any Other Business

████ – ToR's required 16 February 2012

████ asked that as there were likely to be two members of the DUFERC retiring before the next meeting, what were the arrangements for hand over.

████ replied that ██████████ would be taking over his position as Secretary and the ██████████ would be representing KTC in place of █████.

10. Date of Next Meeting

23rd May 2012 10:30hrs at Kirkcudbright

Summary of Outstanding Actions

59.1 █████ to send a copy of the new DUFERC ToR to Test Team (subject to completion of action 59.4)

59.2 █████ to submit the new DUFERC ToR to the next meeting of the RPPDC (subject to completion of action 59.4)

59.4 Amended-████ to send the new draft ToR to █████ for submission to the RPPDC.

60.1 New Action – █████ to progress Ti issue with EA.

59.6 █████ to discuss progress re the AMEC VJ Decommissioning Survey.

60.2 New Action – █████ to contact ██████████ re the outcome of VJ Survey

60.3 █████ to produce Executive Summary of ██████████ report

60.4 New Action - █████ – To consult with DSTL about updating the VJ sampling programme

60.5 New Action – █████ – To produce Eskmeals Remediation Plan

New Action – █████ – to speak to ██████████ re MOD/QinetiQ/EA EPR interface