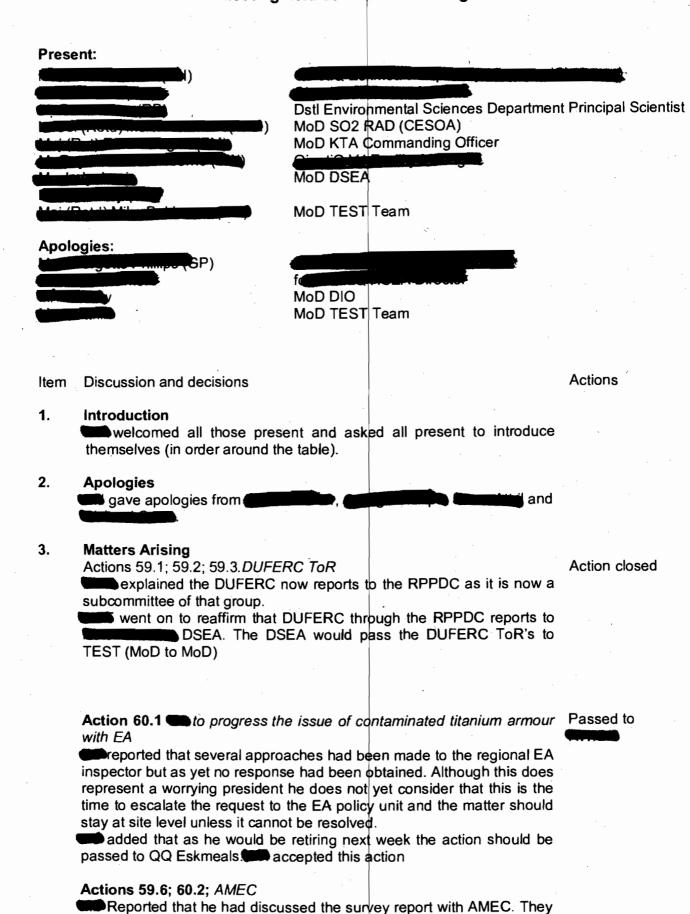
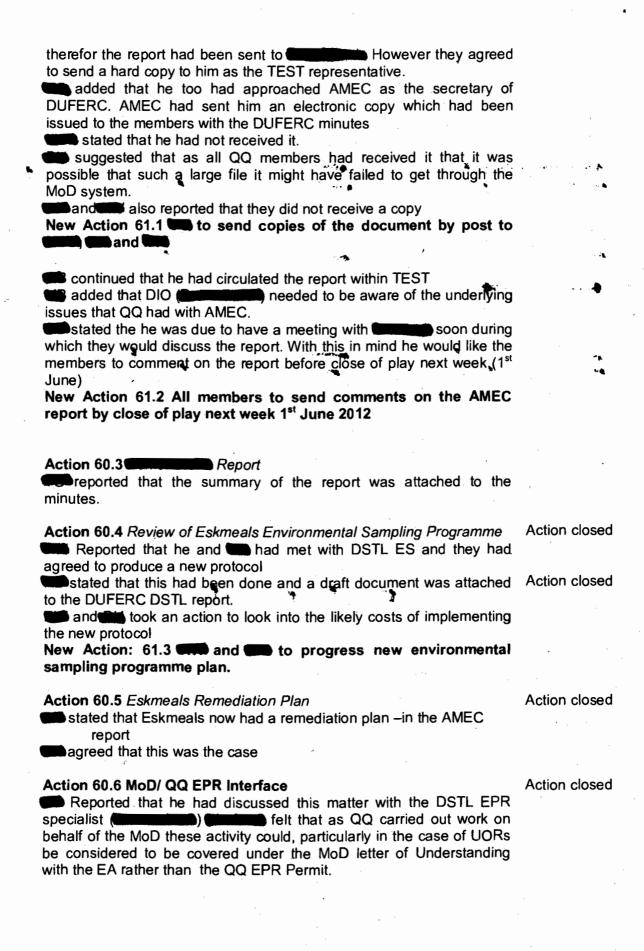
Minutes of the 61st Depleted Uranium Firing Environmental Review Committee (DUFERC) 23rd May 2012 Meeting held at DTE Kirkcudbright



had informed him that the survey and report was commissioned by DIO Action closed



4. DUFERC ToR

Action 59.4 to circulate the new draft ToR for all DUFERC members Action closed to review and report back before the next meeting.

5. **Eskmeals Report** (With reference to the issues involving AMEC assay of waste) stated that he would make the state of DIO aware as such discrepancies need to be avoided for future MoD decommissioning projects Stated that these discrepancies had caused QinetiQ a number of problems with the regulator (EA) so were serious and that all future contracts should include payment retention to encourage greater commitment from decommissioning contractors. asked what the underlying cause the breach of EPR permit was. explained that it was all due to the differences between QinetiQ's original estimate, AMECS assay based estimate and Siemplekamp's final definitive assay of the scrap metal.-in fact no breach of permit had actually occurred other than a failure of the management system. added that the failure had also highlighted a weakness in the QQ Action Plan system that had no provision for radiation issues being recorded-he added that this matter had been raised with of QQ Safety Assurance and Sustainability for action. With reference to the Nuclear Density Gauge explained the context of the equipment's use within the HITS trial and the importance of this trial to the NATO armed forces. With reference to the LLW scrap metal smelting by Siempelkamp. asked if there was any further information regarding the origin of the water contamination within the isofreight explained that the water was found to be condensation. expanded on this and explained that contamination in this context was not radiological. It referred to the problems that can be caused if significant moisture appears within the smelting process i.e. the creation an explosive atmosphere due to hydrogen stripping from water molecules in the extreme heat 7. Kirkcudbright Report reported that it was very much business as usual for the last reporting period. However the following was worthy of note... has now retired and has been replaced as commandant 2 Sabots possibly ex charm had been found on the shore. Both were moritored and no DU contamination was detected. They are currently in storage at Raeberry Battery At a recent inspection of the facility by the MOD Technical Advisory Service (TAS) Questions were raised regarding the competence of to carry out monitoring and as to whether special allowances should be paid for working with an ionising radiation hazard. suggested that these issues should not just have been discussed locally but should be with the Army Chief Radiation Safety Officer stated that he would speak to DIO as the inspection was within his remit. On completion of the report asked if there were any plans to fire mortars in the DU contaminated areas of the site

replied that there was no longer any requirement to do this

There followed a general discussion regarding the pros and cons of possible land remediation and it was generally agreed that the best

option was to maintain the status quo.

8. DSTL Report DSTL REPORT FOR DUFERC – JAN 2012

Since the last DUFERC meeting, there has been an unprecedented increase in the number of Freedom of Information enquiries related to MOD's development and use of DU munitions. This has been accompanied by a very considerable increase in the level of complexity and depth of the enquiries that are being made. The involvement of at least one member of a pressure group known as the 'Campaign Against DU Munitions' (CADU) has been confirmed. There was also one Parliamentary Question.

Topics included: DU testing of UK veterans, access to MOD's DU database, the presence of transuranic materials in DU munitions, DU malfunctions at Kirkcudbright, application of the precautionary principle to the use of DU munitions, MOD support to veterans with health conditions related to DU exposures, proceedings of MOD and UN Workshops on DU research and training, disposal of DU contaminated lraqi vehicles, MOD's work on characterising DU particulate, tests on the "Destiny Round" recovered from the Solway by fishermen in 1997, Eskmeals monitoring and remediation work and derivation of the DUFERC Action and Investigation Levels.

An important discovery was that a report entitled "Complete Record of DU Rounds Fired at Kirkcudbright 1982 – 2001 contained different information to a later report entitled "Record of Depleted Uranium Rounds Fired at Kirkcudbright Training Area 1982 – 2004". It was stated that the aim of the latter report was to provide definitive information for use in future Parliamentary Questions.

Technical Issues

There has been further criticism over the work of who is well-known as someone who believes that the MOD and scientific consensus underestimates the radiation risks from DU munitions. Unfortunately the somewhat intemperate language limits the usefulness of the document to MOD.

The MOD study into the legality of DU munitions is continuing. Revision of the DU-related sections of the MOD web site continues to be delayed pending completion of this work.

expressed concerns that lately the approach to answering PQ etc had become fragmented. This was leading to a lack of continuity in answering that could lead to misleading or even spurious answers being given. To held mitigate this risk he asked the committee to ensure that the various stake holders at least make him aware of questions before they are answered.

There was some discussion concerning the proposed changes to the Eskmeals Environmental sampling programme.

stated that the discussion document was written by environmental scientists to provide a basis for modelling any movement of DU contamination within the VJ/ Eskmeals environment, therefore cost and logistic was not factored into the proposal.

advised that as the budget holder responsible for the work it was in

QQ and TEST interests to ensure that the costs were managed with due regard to his overall budget. To this end he asked to work through the likely cost of the changes and define whether the recommendations of the paper are achievable within the current costs

Action: 61.3 to work with to progress new environmental sampling programme.

9. Any Other Business

- notified the committee that this was her last DUFERC meeting in the role of DSEA representative as her secondment was now declared redundant and she would now be returning to DSTL ES.
- also notified the committee that as he was retiring this was his last DUFERC meeting.
- 10. Date of Next Meeting 10:00 Hrs. 11/10/12 at Alverstoke

Summary of Outstanding Actions

- 60.1 Action Passed to
- New Action to send copies of the document by post to
- 61.2 New Action All members to send comments on the AMEC report by close of play next week
- 61.3 New Action: and to progress new environmental sampling programme.

