



DCN 4781

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July 8, 2005
JCS #9

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Mr. Bob Meyer
Director
BRAC Clearinghouse
1401 Oak St.
Roslyn VA 22209

Dear Mr. Meyer:

I respectfully request a written response from the Department of Defense concerning the following requests:

NI Industries at Riverbank Army Ammunition Plant is the only producer of large caliber deep-drawn cartridge cases in the United States. Shouldn't this fact exempt Riverbank from consideration for closure? If not, why not?

Production of large caliber deep-drawn cartridge cases requires a high level of technician intervention in order to achieve quality consistency from product to product. Was this fact considered as part of the closure scenario? Specifically, did DoD evaluate the plausibility of transferring this production process to Rock Island (i.e. how quickly can this technical expertise be redeveloped at Rock Island)? Moreover, what mitigations were contemplated to account for the possibility that Riverbank's expert personnel may not relocate with this mission? Finally, how will this move affect weapons systems currently undergoing development, test and evaluation?

I would appreciate your response by July 14, 2005. Please provide a control number for this request and do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide further information concerning this request.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Cirillo
Director
Review & Analysis

INDUSTRIAL JOINT CROSS SERVICE GROUP

July 13, 2005

MEMORANDUM FOR FRANK CIRILLO, DIRECTOR REVIEW AND ANALYSIS

Subject: NI Industries at Riverbank Army Ammunition Plant , OSD BRAC
Clearinghouse #C0499

The following is in response to your e-mail inquiry of July 8, 2005, where you asked the following:

QUESTION: NI Industries at Riverbank Army Ammunition Plant is the only producer of large caliber deep-drawn cartridge cases in the United States. Shouldn't this fact exempt Riverbank from consideration for closure? If not, why not?

Answer: Our analysis did not automatically eliminate any installation using unique capability as a rationale. Every site was on the table for analysis. When a site had a unique capability, we considered the following:

- What is the impact of the closure/relocation to the war-fighter and how heavily is this site supporting the current conflict?
 - Response: We can mitigate impacts of deep drawn cartridge cases with stockpiling.
- Can the commodity be relocated and what is the cost to relocate?
 - Response: Yes the commodity can be relocated. Buildings are available and the cost to relocate is minimal.
- Can we recreate deep drawn cartridge case capability at Rock Island Arsenal?
 - Response: Yes we can relocate the equipment from Riverbank to recreate deep drawn cartridge case. Public Private Partnering lowers technical risk.

- How many other munitions functions are performed at this site (Production of other commodities, munitions maintenance, munitions demilitarization, and munitions storage)?
 - Response: None. Riverbank has the capability to produce deep drawn cartridge cases, grenade metal parts, and mortar metal parts; however, Riverbank is only producing deep drawn cartridge case metal parts.
- What is the sites rate of utilization?
 - Response: Riverbank's rate of utilization is 5 percent.
- Without facilitization, can private industry perform this work?
 - Response: The answer is no for deep drawn cartridge cases.
- What is the level of risk associated with the relocation of deep drawn cartridge cases?
 - Response: With Public Private partnering and stockpiling of cartridge cases the risk is moderate.
- Are there any other requirements that cannot be met without modernization?
 - Response: Yes. With Riverbank's existing capability, they cannot accommodate Military Department's 20 Year Force Structure requirements for Cargo Grenade Metal Parts. For Riverbank to produce the projected requirement, the installation will require modernization.

The final recommendations considered:

- Establishment of multi-functional site
- Increase in site's Military value
- Increase site's plant utilization
- Total metal parts capability
- Reduction in excess infrastructure
- Support to the war-fighter

- The ability to surge

Question: Production of large caliber deep-drawn cartridge cases requires a high level of technician intervention in order to achieve quality consistency from product to product. Was this fact considered as part of the closure scenario?

Answer: Yes technical skills were considered in the analysis. This is why the outcome considered locating the deep drawn cartridge case at Rock Island. Analysis showed a need for capabilities that would support Public Private Partnering. Rock Island Arsenal provides the following support system:

- Heat treat capability
- Forging capability
- Casting capability
- Annealing capability
- Apprenticeship programs for machinists, electricians, molder/foundry/pattern maker, pipe fitters, tool and die making
- Metal turning
- Press Forming
- Manufacturing skill sets
- Similar workforce
- Non-destructive testing
- Full metal fabrication with press, laser, shear, welding, etc
- Full engineering support with material test lab metallurgist and production support engineers
- Buildings with the height clearance needed for presses
- A totally vertically integrated manufacturing facility that begins with raw material and ends with a finished product

Question: Specifically, did DoD evaluate the plausibility of transferring this production process to Rock Island (i.e. how quickly can this technical expertise be redeveloped at Rock Island)?

Answer: With access to the apprenticeship program at Rock Island, existing skill sets, supporting capabilities, local community skills, and Public Private Partnering, it is estimated that it will take 2-3 years.

Question: Moreover, what mitigations were contemplated to account for the possibility that Riverbank's expert personnel may not relocate with this mission?

Answer: The contractor that wins the competition will bring a certain percentage of his work force with him. The percent of skilled workforce that will relocate will be supplemented by the following resources from the gaining area:

- Apprenticeship program
- Existing skill sets
- Local businesses
 - John Deere
 - International harvester

Question: Finally, how will this move affect weapons systems currently undergoing development, test and evaluation?

Answer: This recommendation considered the 155MM Navy program and 105MM Army Stryker program. Will remove impact to the war—fighter by stockpiling all deep drawn cartridge case requirements (5" 54, 76MM, 105MM and 155MM) for the Army and the Navy.

Should additional information be required, feel free to contact me at 703-560-4317 or e-mail jberry@gallows.vacoxmail.com



Jay Berry
Executive Secretary