



**Australian Government**

**Department of Defence  
Intelligence & Security**

**Australian Defence Satellite  
Communication Station (ADSCS)**

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Mr Murray Connell  
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City of Greater Geraldton  
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Dear Mr Connell,

I write to you regarding the Blue Energy Explosive Local Planning Scheme No.5 submission. I understand that this submission is in support of Blue Energy Explosive's intent to pursue development approval for the storage of up to 20,000 ton of ammonium nitrate at lot 1 Yanget Road.

I am informed that ammonium nitrate is a commonly utilised fertiliser and a component of explosives; and is harmless under normal conditions and when stored correctly. Importantly though, the Australian Government of Western Australia Department of Mines and Petroleum Code of Practice for the Safe Storage of Solid Ammonium Nitrate (2nd Edition) recommends a 2,200 meter evacuation distance in the event of an emergency.

The Australian Defence Satellite Communications Station (ADSCS) is classified by the Australian Government as a vital critical asset for the protection of its people and interest. ADSCS also host a number cooperative Australian and American capabilities which ensure the safe and effective use of military personal and assets.

The entry point for ADSCS is well within the stated emergency exclusion zone. Further, the facility's mains power, water and primary communications run adjacent with Lot 1 Yanget Road. I believe that in the event of a low level emergency, access to the facility would be, at the very least, disrupted. At worst, if an incident was catastrophic - the potential impact to operations through the loss of critical power, water and communications may be considerable.

For these reasons, I am concerned about the Blue Energy Explosive submission and will provide a formal Submission to this effect if required.

Yours Sincerely,

Kevin Ferguson  
Officer-in-Charge  
Australian Defence Satellite Communications Station, Geraldton  
18 September 2012