

# **MISSISSIPPI ARMY AMMUNITION PLANT, MISSISSIPPI (JOINT CROSS SERVICE GROUP – INDUSTRIAL)**

## **SECRETARY OF DEFENSE RECOMMENDATION**

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Close Mississippi Army Ammunition Plant, MS. Relocate the 155MM ICM artillery metal parts functions to Rock Island Arsenal, IL.

## **SECRETARY OF DEFENSE JUSTIFICATION**

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There are 4 sites within the Industrial Base producing Metal Parts. To remove excess from the Industrial Base, the closure allows DoD to generate efficiencies and nurture partnership with multiple sources in the private sector.

## **COMMUNITY CONCERNS**

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The state of Mississippi supported the closure of the Army Ammunition Plant at Stennis Space Center, but also requested review and comment on the projected costs for mitigation of the existing environmental and safety concerns. The state contended that these facilities can be more effectively utilized through more aggressive and responsive local control, and that closure would ameliorate the need for the Army to continue to spend millions of dollars annually to hold on to an abandoned facility in growing disrepair.

## **COMMISSION FINDINGS**

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The Commission found no reason to disagree with the recommendation of the Secretary of Defense. The low utilization of this ammunition plant, coupled with significant excess capacity for munitions manufacturing in the US industrial base created a compelling argument for rationalizing munitions manufacturing capacity.

## **COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS**

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The Commission found the Secretary's recommendation consistent with the final selection criteria and the Force Structure Plan. Therefore, the Commission approves the recommendation of the Secretary.