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Date: 27 April 2007
Our Ref: F0000726

Dear

Request for Information – Freedom of Information Act 2000

I refer to your recent request for information in respect of the operator licence OH0223379 previously held by Bradford Hide Company Limited. VOSA has now completed its search for the information that is held.

VOSA is able to confirm that the operator licence held by Bradford Hide Company Limited which authorised the use of the operating centre at Fideoak Mill, Bishops Hull, Taunton Somerset TA4 1AF for 7 vehicles was granted, with conditions, at a Public Inquiry on 14 February 2000. The purpose of the public inquiry was to address matters raised in representations made in respect of the application. It should be noted that no objections were received from those bodies listed as having statutory rights under the Goods Vehicle (Licensing of Operators) Act & Regulations 1995. These bodies are listed at Section 12 of the Act and include both the local authority and the planning authority in respect of the location of a proposed operating centre.

The vehicles to be specified on the licence are shown as rigid vehicles between the gross plated weights of 7.5 tonnes and 24. tonnes. However there was no condition placed on the licence with regard to maximum weights of vehicles and the national limit for rigid vehicles at the time of grant of this licence was 32. tonnes.

The conditions imposed were as shown below:

1. That there will be no movements of authorised vehicles in or out or within the operating centre, outside of the hours 06.00 – 19.00 Monday – Friday, and no movements at all on Saturdays, Sundays or Bank or Public Holidays, save in exceptional circumstances, when details of the time, date, registration mark(s) and reason are to be faxed to the Traffic Area Office within 72 hours.
2. That there will be no maintenance (other than drivers' daily checks) at the operating centre.

3. That authorised vehicles enter and leave the operating centre in forward gear.
4. That any authorised vehicle exceeding 7.5 tonnes GVW turn right on leaving the operating centre and enter by the same route.

The application was made on 21 July 1999 and published in the Applications and Decisions booklet 5013. I have noted from the details submitted that this application was made following the acquisition of Taunton Hide and Skin Company Limited by Bradford Hide Company Limited.

An earlier licence issued to Taunton Hide and Skin Company Limited was to be surrendered upon grant of the licence to Bradford Hide Company Limited. That licence OH 151906, authorised the use of 6 vehicles from the operating centre at Fideoak Mills since the date of grant in 1987.

I am aware from VOSA's records that a goods vehicle operators licence number OH0218741 was issued in the name of Jennifer Ivy Hill t/a AJB Transport with a specified operating centre at the premises of Taunton Hide and Skin Company Limited at Fideoak Mill Bishops Hull. This application was published the Applications and Decisions booklet 4924. The licence authorised 1 vehicle and 1 trailer from the site. The vehicle specified on the licence carried a gross vehicle weight of 38.000 tonnes (large articulated tractive unit and trailer). This licence was in force from May 1996 until May 2006 when no continuation was sought or fee paid.

There are other premises at Fideoak with a postcode of TA4 1AF specified as an operating centre for National Grid Co PLC OH0202313 between 1990 and 2004 in respect of 5 vehicles and 4 trailers. This application was submitted to replace the licence previously held by the Central Electricity Generating Board OH126588 for the same site. VOSA is not in a position to provide further information on the CEGB licence as papers have been destroyed in line with our records management disposal schedule. However as operator licence numbers are issued consecutively I am able to advise you that the number series of this licence was originally allocated in 1970 (OH125947 granted Feb 1970 and OH126808 granted Sept 1970).

The current licence for National Grid Transco PLC OH1017982 was applied for in 2003 and an authorisation of 5 vehicles and 4 trailers applies to the operating centre at TA4 1AF.

If you are unhappy with the way the agency has handled your request, you may ask for an internal review. You should contact VOSA.corporateoffice@vosa.gsi.gov.uk if you wish to complain.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:
Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow
Cheshire, SK9 5AF

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me in the first instance. Please remember to quote the reference number F0000726 in any future communications.

Yours faithfully

VOSA Information Access