

of delays caused by inclement weather conditions during this year's construction season.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Charlotte E. Abrams, Uranium Recovery Branch, Division of Waste Management, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555. Telephone (301) 415-5808.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The portion of LC 49 with the proposed changes would read as follows:

A. (3) Placement of the final radon barrier designed and constructed to limit radon emissions to an average flux of no more than 20 pCi/m²/s above background:

For tailings pile surface areas not covered by evaporation ponds constructed as part of the groundwater corrective action program—December 31, 1998.

For the total tailings pile surface after evaporation pond removal—December 31, 1998.

B. Reclamation, to ensure required longevity of the covered tailings and groundwater protection, shall be completed as expeditiously as is reasonably achievable, in accordance with the following target dates for completion:

(1) Placement of erosion protection as part of reclamation to comply with Criterion 6 of Appendix A of 10 CFR Part 40—December 31, 1998.

BCUC's application to amend LC 49 of Source Material License SUA-1310, which describes the proposed changes to the license condition and the reasons for the request is being made available for public inspection at the NRC's Public Document Room at 2120 L Street, NW (Lower Level), Washington, DC 20555.

Notice of Opportunity for Hearing

The NRC hereby provides notice of an opportunity for a hearing on the license amendment under the provisions of 10 CFR part 2, subpart L, "Informal Hearing Procedures for Adjudications in Materials and Operator Licensing Proceedings." Pursuant to § 2.1205(a), any person whose interest may be affected by this proceeding may file a request for a hearing. In accordance with § 2.1205(c), a request for a hearing must be filed within 30 days of the publication of this notice in the **Federal Register**. The request for a hearing must be filed with the Office of the Secretary, either:

(1) By delivery to the Docketing and Service Branch of the Office of the Secretary at One White Flint North,

11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852; or

(2) By mail or telegram addressed to the Secretary, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, Attention: Docketing and Service Branch.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.1205(e), each request for a hearing must also be served, by delivering it personally or by mail, to:

(1) The applicant, Bear Creek Uranium Company, P.O. Box 366, Casper, Wyoming 82602, Attention: Gary Chase; and

(2) The NRC staff, by delivery to the Executive Director for Operations, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852 or by mail addressed to the Executive Director for Operations, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555.

In addition to meeting other applicable requirements of 10 CFR Part 2 of the NRC's regulations, a request for a hearing filed by a person other than an applicant must describe in detail:

(1) The interest of the requestor in the proceeding;

(2) How that interest may be affected by the results of the proceeding, including the reasons why the requestor should be permitted a hearing, with particular reference to the factors set out in § 2.1205(g);

(3) The requestor's areas of concern about the licensing activity that is the subject matter of the proceeding; and

(4) The circumstances establishing that the request for a hearing is timely in accordance with § 2.1205(c).

The request must also set forth the specific aspect or aspects of the subject matter of the proceeding as to which petitioner wishes a hearing.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 1st day of December 1997.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Joseph J. Holonich,

Chief, Uranium Recovery Branch, Division of Waste Management, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards.

[FR Doc. 97-32271 Filed 12-9-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Number 40-0299]

Umetco Minerals Corporation

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Amendment of Source Material License SUA-648 to change six reclamation milestone dates.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission has amended Umetco Minerals Corporation's (Umetco's) Source Material License SUA-648 to change six reclamation milestone dates. This amendment was requested by Umetco in its letter dated October 6, 1997, and the receipt of the request by NRC was noticed in the **Federal Register** on October 16, 1997.

The license amendment modifies License Condition 59 to change completion dates for six site-reclamation milestones. The new dates approved by the NRC extend completion of placement of final radon barrier for the Inactive (enhanced barrier) and the A-9 impoundments by four years, and that for the Heap Leach impoundment by one year; and placement of erosion protection cover for the Inactive impoundment by five years, and for the A-9 and the Heap Leach impoundments by four years. Umetco attributes the delays to its efforts to enhance the previously approved designs of the Inactive and the A-9 impoundments, and in obtaining permits for a rock quarry that can produce sufficient volumes and quality of rock for erosion protection cover. Based on the review of Umetco's submittal, the NRC staff concludes that the delays are attributable to factors beyond Umetco's control, the proposed work is scheduled to be completed as expeditiously as practicable, and the added risk to the public health and safety is not significant, as it already meets the limit of radon emissions to an average flux of no more than 20 pCi/m²/s above background.

An environmental assessment is not required since this action is categorically excluded under 10 CFR 51.22(c)(11), and an environmental report from the licensee is not required by 10 CFR 51.60(b)(2).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Umetco's amended license, and the NRC staff's technical evaluation of the amendment request are being made available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room at 2120 L Street, NW., (Lower Level), Washington, DC 20555.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mohammad W. Haque, Uranium Recovery Branch, Division of Waste Management, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555. Telephone (301) 415-6640.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 3d day of December, 1997.

Joseph J. Holonich,

Chief, Uranium Recovery Branch, Division of Waste Management, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards.

[FR Doc. 97-32270 Filed 12-9-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT

The National Partnership Council; Meeting

AGENCY: Office of Personnel Management.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

Time and date: 1:00 p.m., December 10, 1997.

Place: OPM Conference Center, Room 1350, Theodore Roosevelt Building, 1900 E Street, NW., Washington, DC 20415-0001. The conference center is located on the first floor.

Status: This meeting will be open to the public. Seating will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Individuals with special access needs wishing to attend should contact OPM at the number shown below to obtain appropriate accommodations.

Matters to be Considered: The National Partnership Council will complete its discussion of and adopt its strategic action plan and meeting schedule for calendar year 1998. The Council will also complete its review of the draft 1998 Report to the President on the Progress of Labor-Management Partnerships.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Michael Cushing, Director, Center for Partnership and Labor-Management Relations, Office of Personnel Management, Theodore Roosevelt Building, 1900 E Street, NW., Room 7H28, Washington, DC 20415-0001, (202) 606-2930.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: We invite interested persons and organizations to submit written comments. Mail or deliver your comments to Michael Cushing at the address shown above.

Office of Personnel Management.

Janice R. Lachance,

Director.

[FR Doc. 97-32285 Filed 12-9-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6325-01-M

RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

Determination of Quarterly Rate of Excise Tax for Railroad Retirement Supplemental Annuity Program

In accordance with directions in Section 3221(c) of the Railroad Retirement Tax Act (26 U.S.C., Section 3221(c)), the Railroad Retirement Board has determined that the excise tax imposed by such Section 3221(c) on every employer, with respect to having individuals in his employ, for each work-hour for which compensation is paid by such employer for services rendered to him during the quarter beginning January 1, 1998, shall be at the rate of 35 cents.

In accordance with directions in Section 15(a) of the Railroad Retirement Act of 1974, the Railroad Retirement Board has determined that for the quarter beginning January 1, 1998, 31.6 percent of the taxes collected under Sections 3211(b) and 3221(c) of the Railroad Retirement Tax Act shall be credited to the Railroad Retirement Account and 68.4 percent of the taxes collected under such Sections 3211(b) and 3221(c) plus 100 percent of the taxes collected under Section 3221(d) of the Railroad Retirement Tax Act shall be credited to the Railroad Retirement Supplemental Account.

Dated: December 2, 1997.

By Authority of the Board.

Beatrice Ezerski,

Secretary to the Board.

[FR Doc. 97-32315 Filed 12-9-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7905-01-M

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Rel. No. IC-22924; File No. 812-10240]

Nationwide Life Insurance Company, et al.; Notice of Application

December 3, 1997.

AGENCY: U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC or Commission").

ACTION: Notice of application for an order under (i) Sections 6(c) and 17(b) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "Act") granting exemptive relief from Section 17(a) of the Act; and (ii) Section 12(d)(1)(J) of the Act granting exemptive relief from Sections 12(d)(1)(A) and 12(d)(1)(B) of the Act.

SUMMARY OF APPLICATION: Applicants request an order to commence operations as a "fund of funds" whereby certain investment companies would invest in both investment companies that are part of the same "group of

investment companies" and investment companies that are not part of the same "group of investment companies." Other investments of the "fund of funds" could include government securities, short-term fixed income securities, and a guaranteed investment contract.

APPLICANTS: Nationwide Life Insurance Company, Nationwide Advisory Services, Inc., Nationwide Asset Allocation Trust, Nationwide Investing Foundation, Nationwide Investing Foundation II, and Nationwide Account Trust.

FILING DATES: The application was filed on July 8, 1996, and amended and restated on February 18, 1997, July 25, 1997, and November 19, 1997, and amended on December 3, 1997.

HEARING OR NOTIFICATION OF HEARING: An order granting the application will be issued unless the SEC orders a hearing. Interested persons may request a hearing by writing to the SEC's Secretary and serving Applicants with a copy of the request, personally or by mail. Hearing requests should be received by the SEC by 5:30 p.m. on December 29, 1997, and should be accompanied by proof of service on Applicants in the form of an affidavit or, for lawyers, a certificate of service. Hearing requests should state the nature of the writer's interest, the reason for the request, and the issues contested. Persons who wish to be notified of a hearing may request notification by writing to the SEC's Secretary.

ADDRESSES: SEC, Secretary, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20549. Applicants, Nationwide Life Insurance Company, One Nationwide Plaza, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Edward P. Macdonald, Senior Counsel, Office of Insurance Products, Division of Investment Management, at (202) 942-0670.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following is a summary of the application. The complete application may be obtained for a fee from the SEC's Public Reference Branch, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549 (tel. (202) 942-8090).

Applicants' Representations

1. Nationwide Life Insurance Company ("Nationwide") is organized as a stock life insurance company under Ohio state law. Nationwide is admitted to do business in all fifty states, as well as the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico.

2. Nationwide Asset Allocation Trust ("NAAT") is a Massachusetts business trust, initially consisting of five series