

implementation of the merger agreement between UEC and CIPSCO, which provides for UEC to become a wholly-owned subsidiary of the newly formed Ameren Corporation, does not represent a "significant change."

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 16th day of October 1997.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Samuel J. Collins,

Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

[FR Doc. 97-28000 Filed 10-21-97; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-483]

In the Matter of Union Electric Company (Callaway Plant, Unit 1); Order Approving Application Regarding the Corporate Merger Agreement Between Union Electric Company and Cipsco Incorporated To Form a Holding Company

I

Union Electric Company (UEC) is sole owner of Callaway Plant, Unit 1. UEC holds Facility Operating License No. NPF-30 issued by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) pursuant to Part 50 of Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations on October 18, 1984. Under this license, UEC has the authority to own and operate Callaway Plant, Unit 1. Callaway Plant is located in Callaway County, Missouri.

II

By letter dated February 23, 1996, as supplemented by letters dated April 24, 1996, and November 15, 1996, UEC informed the Commission that it had entered into a merger agreement with CIPSCO Incorporated (CIPSCO) which would provide for UEC to become a wholly-owned operating company of Ameren Corporation (Ameren). Ameren was formed to implement the merger agreement, and is presently owned equally by UEC and CIPSCO. Under the merger agreement, current holders of UEC common stock and holders of CIPSCO common stock will become holders of common stock in Ameren. UEC requested, to the extent necessary, the Commission's approval, pursuant to 10 CFR 50.80. Notice of this application for approval was published in the **Federal Register** on June 10, 1996 (61 FR 29434), and an Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact was published in the **Federal Register** on November 22, 1996 (61 FR 59469).

Under 10 CFR 50.80, no license shall be transferred, directly or indirectly, through transfer of control of the license, unless the Commission shall give its consent in writing. Upon review of the information submitted in the letter of February 23, 1996, as supplemented by letters dated April 24, 1996, and November 15, 1996, and other information before the Commission, the NRC staff has determined that consummation of the merger agreement between UEC and CIPSCO, resulting in UEC becoming a wholly-owned subsidiary of a holding company, Ameren, will not affect the qualifications of UEC as holder of the license for Callaway Plant, and that the transfer of control of the license, to the extent effected by the consummation of the merger agreement between UEC and CIPSCO, is otherwise consistent with applicable provisions of law, regulations, and orders issued by the Commission, subject to the conditions set forth herein. These findings are supported by the Safety Evaluation dated October 16, 1997.

III

Accordingly, pursuant to Section 161b, 161i, 161o, and 184 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, 42 USC 2201(b), 2201(i), 2201(o) and 2234, and 10 CFR 50.80, *It Is Hereby Ordered* that the Commission approves the application regarding the merger agreement between UEC and CIPSCO, under which Ameren will become the holding company of UEC, subject to the following: (1) UEC shall provide the Director of the Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation a copy of any application, at the time it is filed, to transfer (excluding grants of security interests or liens) from UEC to its proposed parent or to any other affiliated company, facilities or other assets for the production, transmission, or distribution of electric energy having a depreciated book value exceeding ten percent (10%) of UEC's consolidated net utility plant, as recorded on UEC's books of account; and (2) should the merger agreement between UEC and CIPSCO not be implemented by September 30, 1998, this Order shall become null and void, provided, however, on application and for good cause shown, such date may be extended.

This Order is effective upon issuance.

IV

By November 21, 1997, any person adversely affected by this Order may file a request for a hearing with respect to issuance of the Order. Any person requesting a hearing shall set forth with particularity how that interest is adversely affected by this Order and

shall address the criteria set forth in 10 CFR 2.714(d).

If a hearing is to be held, the Commission will issue an order designating the time and place of such hearing.

The issue to be considered at any such hearing shall be whether this Order should be sustained.

Any request for a hearing must be filed with the Secretary of the Commission, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001, Attention: Rulemakings and Adjudications Staff, or may be delivered to 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland between 7:45 am and 4:15 pm Federal workdays, by the above date. Copies should be also sent to the Office of the General Counsel, and to the Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, and to Gerald Charnoff, Esquire/Thomas A. Baxter, Esquire, Shaw, Pittman, Potts & Trowbridge, 2300 N. Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037, attorneys for UEC.

For further details with respect to this Order, see the application dated February 23, 1996, and supplemental letters dated April 24, 1996 and November 15, 1996, which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and at the local public document room located at the Callaway County Public Library, 710 Court Street, Fulton, Missouri 65251.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 16th day of October 1997.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Samuel J. Collins,

Director, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Biweekly Notice

Applications and Amendments to Facility Operating Licenses Involving No Significant Hazards Considerations

I. Background

Pursuant to Public Law 97-415, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission or NRC staff) is publishing this regular biweekly notice. Public Law 97-415 revised section 189 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (the Act), to require the Commission to publish notice of any amendments issued, or proposed to be