

For further details with respect to this action, see the application for amendment dated April 10, 1996, as supplemented May 24, 1996, and the licensee's letter dated September 18, 1998, which withdrew the application for license amendment. The above documents 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 Law/Government Publications Section, State Library of Pennsylvania, Walnut Street and Commonwealth Avenue, P.O. Box 1601, Harrisburg, PA 17105.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 25th day of September 1998.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Timothy G. Colburn,**

*Senior Project Manager, Project Directorate I-3, Division of Reactor Projects—I/II, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*

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## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Number 40-2259]

### Pathfinder Mines Corporation

**AGENCY:** U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Amendment of source material license SUA-672 to change two reclamation milestone dates.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has amended Pathfinder Mines Corporation's (PMC's) Source Material License SUA-672 to change two reclamation milestone dates. This amendment was requested by PMC in its letter dated July 23, 1998, and the receipt of the request by NRC was noticed in the **Federal Register** on August 12, 1998.

The license amendment modifies License Condition 61 to change completion dates for two site-reclamation milestones. The new dates approved by the NRC extend completion of placement of the final radon barrier and placement of the erosion protection cover by three years and three months. PMC attributes the delays to substantial settlement still remaining to occur on the tailings system, before a final cover can be placed. Based on the review of PMC's submittal, the NRC staff concludes that the delays are attributable to factors beyond the control of PMC, and the proposed work is scheduled to be

completed as expeditiously as practicable. Furthermore, because of the previous placement of an interim cover over the Lucky Mc tailings impoundment pursuant to License Condition 61A(2), and the ongoing radiation safety and environmental monitoring programs, the staff concludes that a delay in completion of placement of the final radon barrier cover and the erosion protection cover will not result in any significant added risk to the public health and safety and the environment.

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:** PMC'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 29th day of September, 1998.

**Joseph J. Holonich,**

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

[FR Doc. 98-26564 Filed 10-2-98; 8:45 am]

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## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-483]

### Union Electric Co.; Notice of Consideration of Issuance of Amendment to Facility Operating License and Opportunity for a Hearing

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering issuance of an amendment to Facility Operating License No. NPF-30, issued to the Union Electric Company (UE or the licensee), for operation of the Callaway Plant (CW), located in Callaway County, Missouri.

The proposed amendment, requested by the licensee in a letter dated May 15, 1997, as supplemented by letters dated June 26, August 4, August 27, and September 24, 1998, would represent a full conversion from the current Technical Specifications (CTS) to a set

of improved Technical Specifications (ITS) based on NUREG-1431, "Standard Technical Specifications, Westinghouse Plants," Revision 1, dated April 1995. NUREG-1431 has been developed by the Commission's staff through working groups composed of both NRC staff members and industry representatives, and has been endorsed by the staff as part of an industry-wide initiative to standardize and improve the Technical Specifications for nuclear power plants. As part of this submittal, the licensee has applied the criteria contained in the Commission's "Final Policy Statement on Technical Specification Improvements for Nuclear Power Reactors (Final Policy Statement)," published in the **Federal Register** on July 22, 1993 (58 FR 39132), to the CTS, and, using NUREG-1431 as a basis, proposed an ITS for CW. The criteria in the Final Policy Statement were subsequently added to 10 CFR 50.36, "Technical Specifications," in a rule change that was published in the **Federal Register** on July 19, 1995 (60 FR 36953) and became effective on August 18, 1995.

This conversion is a joint effort in concert with three other utilities: Pacific Gas & Electric Company for Diablo Canyon Power Plant, Units 1 and 2 (Docket Nos. 50-275 and 323); TU Electric for Comanche Peak Steam Electric Station, Units 1 and 2 (Docket Nos. 50-445 and 50-446); and Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation for Wolf Creek Generating Station (Docket No. 50-482). It is a goal of the four utilities to make the ITS for all the plants as similar as possible. This joint effort includes a common methodology for the licensees in marking-up the CTS and NUREG-1431 Specifications, and the NUREG-1431 Bases, that has been accepted by the staff. This includes the convention that, if the words in the CTS specification are not the same as the words in the ITS specification but they mean the same or have the same requirements as the words in the ITS specification, the licensee does not indicate or describe a change to the CTS.

This common methodology is discussed at the end of Enclosure 2, "Mark-Up of Current TS"; Enclosure 5a, "Mark-Up of NUREG-1431 Specifications"; and Enclosure 5b, "Mark-Up of NUREG-1431 Bases," for each of the 14 separate ITS sections that were submitted with the licensee's application. For each of the 14 ITS sections, there is also the following: Enclosure 1, the cross reference table connecting each CTS specification (i.e., limiting condition for operation, required action, or surveillance