

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 24th day of September 1998.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Richard P. Croteau,

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

[FR Doc. 98-26283 Filed 9-30-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket Number 40-6659]

Petrotoomics Company, Shirley Basin, WY; Final Finding of No Significant Impact

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) proposes to amend Petrotoomics Company's (Petrotoomics') Source Material License SUA-551, to allow alternate concentration limits (ACLs) for groundwater hazardous constituents at the Shirley Basin uranium mill site in Carbon County, Wyoming. An Environmental Assessment (EA) was performed by the NRC staff in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR part 51. The conclusion of the EA is a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for this licensing action.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

By letter of September 10, 1996, Petrotoomics requested that Source Material License SUA-551 be amended to allow ACLs for groundwater constituents, cadmium, chromium, nickel, radium-226, radium-228, thorium-230, selenium, and uranium, at Petrotoomics' Shirley Basin uranium mill site. Petrotoomics' application for ACLs proposed discontinuing the site groundwater corrective action program (CAP) in order to complete placement of the final radon barrier over the tailings and complete reclamation of the site. In order to terminate the CAP, the licensee must meet 10 CFR Part 40, Appendix A, Criterion 5B(5), which requires that, at the point of compliance (POC), the concentration of a hazardous constituent must not exceed the established background concentration of that constituent, the maximum concentration limits (MCLs) given in Table 5C of Appendix A, or an alternate concentration limit established by the NRC. The receipt of Petrotoomics' request by NRC and a Notice of Opportunity for a Hearing were published in the **Federal Register** on November 1, 1996.

Summary of the Environmental Assessment

Identification of the Proposed Action

The proposed action is an amendment to SUA-551 to allow the application of ACLs for groundwater hazardous constituents, cadmium, chromium, nickel, radium-226, radium-228, thorium-230, selenium, and uranium, at the Petrotoomics' Shirley Basin facility, as provided in 10 CFR Part 40, Appendix A, Criterion 5B(5). The NRC staff's review was conducted in accordance with the "Staff Technical Position, Alternate Concentration Limits for Title II Uranium Mills," dated January 1996.

Based on its evaluation of Petrotoomics' amendment request, the NRC staff has concluded that granting Petrotoomics the request for ACLs will not result in significant impacts. The staff decision was based on information provided by Petrotoomics demonstrating that its proposed ACLs would not pose a substantial present or potential future hazard to human health and the environment, and are as low as is reasonably achievable. A review of alternatives to the requested action indicates that implementation of alternate methods would result in little net reduction of groundwater constituent concentrations.

Conclusion

The NRC staff concludes that approval of Petrotoomics' amendment request to allow ACLs for groundwater hazardous constituents will not cause significant health or environmental impacts. The following statements summarize the conclusions resulting from the EA:

1. Currently, all concentrations of hazardous constituents of concern to NRC meet the proposed groundwater ACLs for the site at the POC wells.
2. Present and potential health risks were assessed for various exposure scenarios, using conservative approaches. The result of these assessments indicates that present and potential future hazardous constituent concentrations at the specified POEs will not pose significant risks to human health and the environment. The POEs are located within or at the long-term care area boundary which will be maintained for long-term care by the U.S. Department of Energy following termination of the Petrotoomics license.
3. Climatological extremes and sparse vegetation indicate that future use of groundwater is likely to be limited to seasonal livestock (e.g., cattle) and wildlife (e.g., pronghorn antelope) watering. Domestic use of groundwater

at the site is highly unlikely. However, if a future domestic water source is needed, the Lower Sand aquifer, which has not been affected by site-derived contamination and is suitable for drinking, would be a more reasonable source.

4. Additional corrective action will have little effect on the net reduction of constituent concentrations of concern to the NRC and, therefore, will have little impact on groundwater quality.

Because the staff has determined that there will be no significant impacts associated with approval of the amendment request, there can be no disproportionately high and adverse effects or impacts on minority and low-income populations. Except in special cases, these impacts need not be addressed for EAs in which a FONSI is made. Special cases may include regulatory actions that have substantial public interest, decommissioning cases involving onsite disposal in accordance with 10 CFR 20.2002, decommissioning/decontamination cases which allow residual radioactivity in excess of release criteria, or cases where environmental justice issues have been previously raised. Consequently, further evaluation of "Environmental Justice" concerns, as outlined in NRC's Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards Policy and Procedures Letter 1-50, Rev.1, is not warranted.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action

Since the licensee has demonstrated that the proposed ACL values will not pose substantial present or potential hazards to human health and the environment, and that the proposed ACLs are ALARA, considering practicable corrective actions, establishing other standards more stringent than the proposed ACLs was not evaluated. Furthermore, since the NRC staff has concluded that there are no significant environmental impacts associated with the proposed action, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impacts need not be evaluated. The principal alternative to the proposed action would be to deny the requested action. The licensee evaluated various alternatives, including continuation of the CAP, and demonstrated that those alternatives would result in little net reduction of constituent concentrations. Because the environmental impacts of the proposed action and the no-action alternative are similar, there is no need to further evaluate alternatives to the proposed action.

Finding of No Significant Impact

The NRC staff has prepared an EA for this action. On the basis of this assessment, the NRC staff has concluded that the environmental impacts that may result from this action would not be significant, and therefore, preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not warranted.

The EA and other documents related to this action are being made available for public inspection at the NRC'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 day of September 1998.

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. 98-26284 Filed 9-30-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 7590-01-P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. IC-23466]

Notice of Applications for Deregistration Under Section 8(f) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

September 25, 1998.

The following is a notice of applications for deregistration under section 8(f) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 for the month of September, 1998. A copy of each application may be obtained for a fee at the SEC's Public Reference Branch, 450 Fifth St., N.W., Washington, DC 20549 (tel. 202-942-8090). An order granting each application will be issued unless the SEC orders a hearing. Interested persons may request a hearing on any application by writing to the SEC's Secretary at the address below and serving the relevant applicant with a copy of the request, personally or by mail. Hearing requests should be received by the SEC by 5:30 p.m. on October 20, 1998, and should be accompanied by proof of service on the applicant, 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 Secretary, SEC, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20549. For Further Information Contact: Diane L. Titus, at (202) 942-0564, SEC, Division of Investment Management, Office of Investment Company Regulation, Mail Stop 5-6, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20549.

First Eagle International Fund, Inc.

[File No. 811-8082]

Summary: Applicant seeks an order declaring that it has ceased to be an investment company. On February 21, 1998, applicant transferred all of its assets and liabilities to First Eagle International Fund Series, a new series of First Eagle Trust, based on net asset value per share. First Eagle Trust paid \$110,660 in expenses in connection with its formation, which were allocated equally between its two series.

Filing Dates: The application was filed on June 1, 1998, and amended on September 3, 1998.

Applicant's Address: 1345 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10105.

AEGON USA Managed Portfolios, Inc.

[File No. 811-0948]

Summary: Applicant seeks an order declaring that it has ceased to be an investment company. On August 7, 1992, applicant's four series, AEGON USA Tax-Exempt Portfolio, AEGON USA High Yield Portfolio, AEGON USA Capital Appreciation Portfolio and AEGON USA Growth Portfolio, transferred their assets and liabilities to the corresponding series of IDEX II Series Fund ("IDEX Fund") in exchange for shares of the acquiring series based on net asset value. Expenses incurred in connection with the reorganization were approximately \$90,000 and were borne by InterSecurities, Inc., the principal underwriter for IDEX Fund.

Filing Dates: The application was filed on July 20, 1998, and amended on September 10, 1998.

Applicant's Address: 4333 Edgewood Road NE, Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52499.

Dean Witter World Wide Investment Trust

[File No. 811-3800]

Summary: Applicant seeks an order declaring that it has ceased to be an investment company. On June 8, 1998, applicant transferred all of its assets and liabilities to Morgan Stanley Dean Witter Global Dividend Growth Securities ("Global Dividend"), based on the relative net asset value per share. Morgan Stanley Dean Witter Advisors, Inc., the investment adviser of applicant

and Global Dividend, paid approximately \$220,000 in expenses related to the reorganization.

Filing Date: The application was filed on September 3, 1998.

Applicant's Address: Two World Trade Center, New York, New York 10048.

The CountryBaskets Index Fund, Inc.

[File No. 811-8734]

Summary: Applicant seeks an order declaring that it has ceased to be an investment company. On March 14, 1997, applicant made a liquidating distribution to the shareholders of each of the Australia Index Series, the Hong Kong Index Series, and the UK Index Series. On March 21, 1997, applicant made a liquidating distribution to the shareholders of each of the France Index Series, the Germany Index Series, the Italy Index Series, the Japan Index Series and the South Africa Index Series. Expenses incurred in connection with the liquidations were approximately \$2,190,087 and were borne by Deutsche Morgan Grenfell Inc., applicant's investment adviser.

Filing Date: The application was filed on December 5, 1997.

Applicant's Address: 31 West 52nd Street, New York, New York 10019.

Merrill Lynch Community Services Fund, Inc.

[File No. 811-5728]

Summary: Applicant seeks an order declaring that it has ceased to be an investment company. Applicant has never made a public offering of its securities and does not propose to make a public offering or engage in business of any kind.

Filing Date: The application was filed on September 15, 1998.

Applicant's Address: 800 Scudders Mill Road, Plainsboro, New Jersey 08536.

Camelot Funds

[File No. 811-3139]

Summary: Applicant seeks an order declaring that it has ceased to be an investment company. Applicant has never made a public offering of its securities and does not propose to make a public offering or engage in business of any kind.

Filing Date: The application was filed on September 14, 1998.

Applicant's Address: 1346 South Third Avenue, Louisville, Kentucky 40208.