

NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-336]

Dominion Nuclear Connecticut, Inc.; Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 2, Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is considering issuance of an amendment to Facility Operating License No. DPR-65 issued to Dominion Nuclear Connecticut, Inc. (the licensee), for operation of the Millstone Nuclear Power Station, Unit No. 2 (MP2), located in Waterford, Connecticut. Therefore, as required by 10 CFR 51.21, the NRC is issuing this environmental assessment and finding of no significant impact.

Environmental Assessment

Identification of the Proposed Action

The proposed action would revise the MP2 Final Safety Analysis Report (FSAR), Chapter 14, description of the Steam Generator Tube Rupture (SGTR) event. The changes are the result of incorporating a postulated loss of offsite power (LOOP) into the event analyses as well as revised assumptions and analysis methodology.

The proposed action is in accordance with the licensee's application dated December 21, 2000, as supplemented by letter dated June 29, 2001.

The Need for the Proposed Action

General Design Criterion (GDC) 17, "Electric Power Systems," of Appendix A to 10 CFR part 50, "General Design Criteria for Nuclear Power Plants" requires that fuel design limits and design conditions of the reactor coolant pressure boundary are not exceeded as a result of anticipated operational occurrences including a LOOP and that the core is cooled and containment integrity and other vital functions are maintained in the event of postulated accidents including an SGTR. Currently, the description of an SGTR in the MP2 FSAR does not include a concurrent LOOP. Therefore, the licensee submitted a revision to the MP2 FSAR to include an SGTR concurrent with a LOOP.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action

The NRC has completed its evaluation of the proposed action and concludes that issuance of the proposed amendment would not have a significant environmental impact. The proposed changes to the FSAR provide documentation of a combination of events not previously included in the

FSAR. The likelihood of an SGTR concurrent with a LOOP, along with the radiological consequences, are independent of the proposed action to revise the FSAR to include this combination of events. The analysis shows that the radiological consequences of an SGTR concurrent with a LOOP are within the limits of 10 CFR Part 100, Reactor Site Criteria, and GDC-19, Control Room.

The proposed action will not significantly increase the probability or consequences of accidents, no changes are being made in the types of effluents that may be released off site, and there is no significant increase in occupational or public radiation exposure. Therefore, there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the proposed action does not have a potential to affect any historic sites. It does not affect nonradiological plant effluents and has no other environmental impact. Therefore, there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Accordingly, the NRC concludes that there are no significant environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Environmental Impacts of the Alternatives to the Proposed Action

As an alternative to the proposed action, the staff considered denial of the proposed action (i.e., the "no-action" alternative). Denial of the application would result in no change in current environmental impacts. The environmental impacts of the proposed action and the alternative action are similar.

Alternative Use of Resources

The action does not involve the use of any different resource than those previously considered in the Final Environmental Statement for MP2, dated June 1973.

Agencies and Persons Consulted

On February 25, 2002, the staff consulted with the Connecticut State official, Mr. Michael Firsick of the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, regarding the environmental impact of the proposed action. The State official had no comments.

Finding of No Significant Impact

On the basis of the environmental assessment, the NRC concludes that the proposed action will not have a

significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Accordingly, the NRC has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed action.

For further details with respect to the proposed action, see the licensee's letter dated December 21, 2000, as supplemented by letter dated June 29, 2001. Documents may be examined, and/or copied for a fee, at the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR), located at One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike (first floor), Rockville, Maryland. Publicly available records will be accessible electronically from the Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Public Electronic Reading Room on the Internet at the NRC Web site, <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. Persons who do not have access to ADAMS or who encounter problems in accessing the documents located in ADAMS should contact the NRC PDR Reference staff by telephone at 1-800-397-4209 or 301-415-4737, or by e-mail to pdr@nrc.gov.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 8th day of April 2002.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Richard B. Ennis, Sr.,

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Directorate I, Division of Licensing Project
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Regulation.*

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RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

Proposed Collection; Comment Request

SUMMARY: In accordance with the requirement of Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 which provides opportunity for public comment on new or revised data collections, the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) will publish periodic summaries of proposed data collections.

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information has practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the RRB's estimate of the burden of the collection of the information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden related to the collection of information on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Title and Purpose of information collection: Application for Reimbursement for Hospital Insurance Services in Canada; OMB 3220-0086 Under section 7(d) of the Railroad Retirement Act (RRA), the RRB administers the Medicare program for persons covered by the railroad retirement system. Payments are provided under section 7(d)(4) of the RRA for medical services furnished in Canada to the same extent as for those furnished in the United States. However, payments for the services furnished in Canada are made from the Railroad Retirement Account rather than from the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund, with the payments limited to the amount by which insurance benefits under Medicare exceed the amounts payable under Canadian Provincial plans.

Form AA-104, Application for Canadian Hospital Benefits Under Medicare—Part A, is provided by the RRB for use in claiming benefits for covered hospital services received in Canada. The form obtains information needed to determine eligibility for, and the amount of any reimbursement due the applicant. One response is requested of each respondent. Completion is required to obtain a benefit.

No changes are proposed to Form AA-104.

Number of respondents: 50.

Estimated Completion Time: 10 minutes.

Estimated annual burden hours: 8.

Additional Information or Comments: To request more information or to obtain a copy of the information collection justification, forms, and/or supporting material, please call the RRB Clearance Officer at (312) 751-3363. Comments regarding the information collection should be addressed to Ronald J. Hodapp, Railroad Retirement Board, 844 N. Rush Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611-2092. Written comments should be received within 60 days of this notice.

Chuck Mierzwa,

Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 02-8945 Filed 4-11-02; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Investment Company Act Release No. 25512; 812-12198]

Pioneer Balanced Fund, et al.; Notice of Application

April 8, 2002.

AGENCY: Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission").

ACTION: Notice of an application under section 6(c) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "Act") for an exemption from section 15(a) of the Act and rule 18f-2 under the Act.

SUMMARY OF APPLICATION: Applicants request an order to permit them to enter into and materially amend subadvisory agreements without obtaining shareholder approval.

Applicants: Pioneer Balanced Fund, Pioneer Global Value Fund, Pioneer Variable Contracts Trust (each a Trust, collectively, the "Trusts") and Pioneer Investment Management, Inc. (the Adviser).

FILING DATES: The application was filed on July 27, 2000, and amended on March 25, 2002.

Hearing or Notification of Hearing: An order granting the application will be issued unless the Commission orders a hearing. Interested persons may request a hearing by writing to the Commission's Secretary and serving applicants with a copy of the request, personally or by mail. Hearing requests should be received by the Commission by 5:30 p.m. on May 3, 2002, 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 Commission's Secretary.

ADDRESSES: Secretary, Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549-0609; Applicants, 60 State Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02109.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lidian Pereira, Senior Counsel, at (202) 942-0524 or Nadya B. Roytblat, Assistant Director, at (202) 942-0564 (Division of Investment Management, Office of Investment Company Regulation).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The following is a summary of the application. The complete application may be obtained for a fee at the Commission's Public Reference Branch,

450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549-0102 (telephone (202) 942-8090).

Applicants' Representations

1. The Trusts, each a Delaware business trust, are registered under the Act as open-end management investment companies. Each Trust is organized as a series investment company and offers shares of multiple series (each series, a "Fund," and together, the "Funds").¹

2. The Adviser, an indirect, majority owned subsidiary of UniCredito Italiano, S.p.A., serves as the investment adviser to each Fund and is registered as an investment adviser under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 ("Advisers Act").

3. Each Fund has entered into an investment advisory agreement (each an "Advisory Agreement") with the Adviser. Each Advisory Agreement has been approved by each Fund's shareholders and by a majority of the Fund's board of trustees ("Board"), including a majority of the trustees who are not "interested persons," as defined in section 2(a)(19) of the Act, of the Fund or the Adviser ("Independent Trustees").

4. The Advisory Agreement permits the Adviser to enter into separate investment advisory agreements ("Subadvisory Agreements") with subadvisers ("Subadvisers") to whom the Adviser may delegate responsibility for providing investment advice and making investment decisions for a Fund. Each Subadviser is an investment adviser registered under the Advisers Act. The Adviser monitors and evaluates the Subadvisers and recommends to the Board their hiring, termination, and replacement. The Adviser compensates the Subadvisers out of the fees paid to the Adviser by the Fund.

5. Applicants request relief to permit the Adviser to enter into and materially amend Subadvisory Agreements without obtaining shareholder approval.

¹ Applicants also request relief with respect to future series of the Trusts and any other registered open-end management investment companies and their series that: (a) Are advised by the Adviser (or any successor entity) or any person controlling, controlled by, or under common control with the Adviser (or any successor entity); (b) operate in substantially the same manner as the Funds with regard to the Adviser's responsibility to select, evaluate and supervise Subadvisers; and (c) comply with the terms and conditions in this application ("Future Funds," included in the term "Funds"). A successor entity is limited to entities that result from a reorganization into another jurisdiction or a change in the type of business organization. All entities that currently intend to rely on the requested relief are named as applicants. If the name of a Fund contains the name of a Subadviser, it will be preceded by the name of the Adviser.