

## NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

### Draft Final Technical Study of Spent Fuel Pool Accident Risk at Decommissioning Nuclear Power Plants

**AGENCY:** Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**ACTION:** Request for public comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is soliciting public comment on the "Draft Final Technical Study of Spent Fuel Pool Accident Risk at Decommissioning Nuclear Power Plants."

As the number of power reactors involved in the decommissioning process increases, the ability to address regulatory issues generically has become more important. After a nuclear power plant permanently shuts down and the reactor is defueled, the traditional accident sequences that dominate operating reactor risk are no longer applicable. The predominant source of risk remaining at permanently shutdown plants involves accidents associated with spent fuel stored in the spent fuel pool.

Following a Commission meeting held on March 17, 1999, the NRC staff formed a technical working group to evaluate spent fuel pool accident risk at decommissioning plants. The staff set out to develop a risk-informed technical basis that could be used to develop rulemaking and to establish a predictable method for reviewing future exemption requests and to identify the need for any research in areas of large uncertainty. The staff intends for this approach to meet the NRC outcome goals of maintaining safety, reducing unnecessary regulatory burden, increasing public confidence, and improving efficiency and effectiveness.

The NRC released a preliminary draft version of the technical basis study in June 1999. A public workshop to discuss the report was held in July 1999. Numerous comments and other input were received from the public and the nuclear industry. The NRC has revised the report to address the comments received and to incorporate needed changes based on the results of outside technical reviews.

All comments received will be considered before the final report is published as the basis for initiation of rulemaking activities.

**DATES:** The comment period expires April 7, 2000. Comments received after this date will be considered if practical to do so, but the staff is able to assure

consideration only for comments received on or before this date.

**ADDRESSES:** Mail written comments to Chief, Rules and Directives Branch, Division of Administrative Services, Office of Administration, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001. Comments may also be sent electronically by completing the online comment form available on the NRC Internet web page at the address below. Comments may also be hand delivered to Room 6D59, Two White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland, between 7:30 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. on Federal workdays.

The report is available at the NRC Public Document Room, 2120 L Street NW., Washington, DC. and through the NRC Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS). The report is also available via the Internet on the NRC web page at <http://www.nrc.gov/NRC/REACTOR/DECOMMISSIONING/SF/index.html>. Requests for single copies may be made to Richard Dudley, U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Mail Stop O-11D19, Washington, DC 20555-0001 or by telephone at 301-415-1116 or email to [rfd@nrc.gov](mailto:rfd@nrc.gov).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** George Hubbard, U.S. NRC, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Mail Stop O-11A11, Washington, DC, 20555-0001; telephone 301-415-2870; email: [gth@nrc.gov](mailto:gth@nrc.gov).

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 15th day of February, 2000.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

**Stuart A. Richards,**

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

### Issuer Delisting; Notice of Application To Withdraw From Listing and Registration (American Heritage Life Investment Corporation, FELINE PRIDES); File No. 1-7255

February 15, 2000.

American Heritage Life Investment Corporation ("Company") has filed an application with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission"), pursuant to Section 12(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")<sup>1</sup> and Rule 12d2-2(d)

promulgated thereunder,<sup>2</sup> to withdraw its FELINE PRIDES ("PRIDES") from listing and registration on the New York Stock Exchange, Inc. ("NYSE" or "Exchange").

The PRIDES were issued by the Company and its wholly owned subsidiary, AHL Financing, a Delaware business trust, and were listed for trading on the NYSE pursuant to a registration statement on Form 8-A which became effective on June 23, 1997. Trading in the PRIDES commenced on the NYSE at the opening of business on June 24, 1997, subject to official notice of issuance.

In October 1999, the Company was merged with and into a subsidiary of The Allstate Corporation ("Allstate"). This Allstate subsidiary became the successor obligor on the PRIDES and successor registrant with the Commission, changing its name to "American Heritage Life Investment Corporation." In connection with the merger, Allstate became a co-obligor and guarantor with respect to the obligations of the Company under the PRIDES. In addition, as required by the terms of the PRIDES' purchase contract agreement, Allstate agreed to issue its common stock upon settlement of the PRIDES' purchase contracts. The purchase contracts are scheduled to settle in August 2000. The common stock of Allstate issued on settlement of the purchase contracts will be listed on the NYSE.

In making the decision to withdraw its PRIDES from listing and registration at this time, the Company has stated its wish to eliminate the costs associated with both continued listing and its related reporting requirements. As required by the Act, Allstate files with the Exchange and the Commission periodic reports containing consolidated financial statements which include the Company's results. Although Allstate does not intend to list the PRIDES on another exchange, the Company does not believe that its determination to withdraw the PRIDES from listing and registration on the NYSE will affect an investor's ability to trade them in the over-the-counter market.

The Company has stated in its application to the Commission that it has complied with the requirements of NYSE Rule 500 and that the Exchange has indicated it will not interpose any objection to the withdrawal of the PRIDES.

This application relates solely to the withdrawal from listing and registration of the Company's PRIDES and shall have no effect upon the continued

<sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78l(d).

<sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.12d2-2(d).