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SUBJECT: PNO-II-97-023:on 970422,Unit 2 taken off line due to unidentified RCS leakage TS limit of 1 gpm.NRC resident inspector staff responded onsite prior to unit shutdown & will continue to closely monitor licensee recovery.

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April 22, 1997

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-97-023

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This preliminary notification constitutes EARLY notice of events of POSSIBLE safety or public interest significance. The information is as initially received without verification or evaluation, and is basically all that is known by Region II staff in Atlanta, Georgia on this date.

<u>Facility</u>

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Duke Power Co. Oconee 2 Seneca,South Carolina Dockets: 50-270

Licensee Emergency Classification Notification of Unusual Event Alert Site Area Emergency General Emergency X Not Applicable

Subject: EXTENDED SHUTDOWN - OCONEE UNIT 2

On April 22, 1997, at 12:50 p.m., Oconee Unit 2 was taken off line due to unidentified reactor coolant system (RCS) leakage exceeding the Technical Specification limit of 1 gpm. From the time of initial leak indications (April 21, at 10:45 p.m.) until taking the Unit off line, leakage went from approximately 2 gpm to 9 gpm. A containment entry at approximately 20 percent power identified the source of leakage to be in the area of the high pressure injection line associated with reactor coolant loop 2A1.

Once shutdown, current plans are to take the Unit to cold shutdown to effect necessary repairs. Unit restart is not expected earlier than late this week.

The NRC⁽resident inspector staff responded onsite prior to Unit shutdown and will continue to closely monitor the licensee's recovery activities.

The State of South Carolina has been notified. The licensee is prepared to respond to any media inquiries, but no press release is planned.

This information is current as of 3:00 p.m., on April 22, 1997.

Contact: R. CARROLL (404)331-5543

9704230245 970422 PDR I&E PNO-II-97-023 PDR

