

July 6, 1994

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-94-034

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 the Region II staff on this date.

Facility

Duke Power Co.
Oconee 3
Seneca, South Carolina
Dockets: 50-287

Licensee Emergency Classification

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

Subject: UNPLANNED SHUTDOWN GREATER THAN 72 HOURS

On July 5 at 10:25 a.m., Oconee Unit 3 initiated a reactor shutdown to facilitate repairs on both letdown non-regenerative heat exchangers. At 11:30 a.m. on July 5, 1994, reactor coolant system leakage rate in the 3A letdown non-regenerative heat exchanger increased from approximately .01 gpm to 5 gpm. Previously, on July 4, 1994, the licensee had removed the 3B letdown heat exchanger from service due to an increase in RCS leakage rate. Since both heat exchangers are experiencing elevated leak rates the licensee decided to shut down the reactor to complete repairs. Unit 3 entered Mode 4 (Hot Shutdown) at 5:30 p.m., on July 5, 1994.

The licensee expects to have the repairs completed within eight to ten days.

The Residents were onsite and monitored the licensee's actions.

Followup will be by the Resident Inspectors.

The State of South Carolina has been notified.

This information is current as of 7:00 a.m., on July 6, 1994.

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