

August 8, 1979

PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE--PNO-79-318

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

FACILITY: Oconee Nuclear Station, Units 1, 2 and 3 Docket Nos. 50-269, 50-270 and 50-287

Seneca, South Carolina

SUBJECT:

SEISMIC LOADINGS FOR DESIGN OF HANGERS

While performing hanger base plate flexibility re-analysis in accordance with IE Bulletin 79-02, the licensee determined on August 7 that safety system hangers may not be designed using design basis earthquake (DBE) loads. Licensee records indicate that the hanger designers (Bechtel and Grinnell) were provided seismic loads for the operational basis earthquake (OBE). The CBE is approximately one-half the magnitude of the DBE. The licensee is working with Grinnell and Bechtel to determine whether or not DBE loadings were used for Oconee hanger design. Unit Nos. 1 and 2 are operating. Unit 3 is shut down for refueling and inspections required by IE Bulletin 79-02 and 79-14. A meeting between IE, NRR and Duke Power Company is scheduled for August 9, 1979. Generic implications are being considered.

There has been no media interest to date. Neither the licensee nor the NRC plans to issue a press release at this time. The State of South Carolina has been informed.

Region II (Atlanta) received notification of this occurrence by telephone from the licensee at 2:15 p.m. on August 7, 1979. This information is current as of 11:00 a.m. on August 8, 1979.

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