

March 21, 1994

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PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION OF EVENT OR UNUSUAL OCCURRENCE PNO-II-94-014

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: SHUTDOWN EXCEEDING 72 HOURS TO REPAIR STEAM GENERATOR TUBE LEAK

On March 17, 1994, a possible Unit 3 steam generator tube leak was identified due to increased activity level indications on the Unit 3 Steam Jet Air Ejector. At approximately 11:17 p.m. on March 18, 1994, a high activity alarm was received by the radiation monitor on the Unit 3 Steam Jet Air Ejector. Indications from the Steam Line Radiation Monitor and subsequent chemistry samples indicated a leak of approximately 0.11 gpm in the Unit 3 "A" steam generator. Technical Specification 3.1.6.4 states that when the leakage through any one steam generator equals or exceeds 0.35 gpm a reactor shutdown shall be initiated within 4 hours and the reactor shall be in cold shutdown within the next 36 hours. The licensee initiated a reactor shutdown on March 19 at approximately 9:30 a.m. and reached Cold Shutdown on March 20. The licensee is planning an investigation to identify the source of the leak and plug any defective tubes. The unit is scheduled to restart in approximately 10 days.

On March 21 at 7:00 a.m. the Unit was in Cold Shutdown with the reactor coolant system at 165 degrees F. and 260 psig and Units 1 and 2 were operating at full power.

The resident inspectors are on site and are monitoring the licensee's activities.

State and local authorities were informed.

The licensee does not plan to issue a press release.

This information is current as of 8:00 a.m. on March 21, 1994.

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