

[Provisional Translation]

Confirmation of the Safety of Nuclear Power Stations in Japan
(Introduction of safety assessments using stress tests as a source of reference, etc.)

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(Confirmation of the Current Status)

1. With regard to the nuclear power stations in Japan, the nuclear power stations currently in operation are in compliance with existing laws and regulations. In addition, it has been confirmed that the nuclear power stations that are currently suspended for the purposes of regularly scheduled checks are also in a safe condition as stipulated under existing laws and regulations.

Moreover, following the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station of Tokyo Electric Power Company, the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency (NISA) has confirmed that emergency safety measures have been implemented at all of the power stations and safety confirmation is being implemented more stringently than ever.

(Issues)

2. However, with regard to the restarting of operations at nuclear power stations following the completion of regularly scheduled checks, while there are some who have shown their understanding on the confirmation of safety as implemented by the NISA, there are still many people who remain doubtful. Therefore, it is difficult to say that sufficient understanding with regard to the situation has been attained from the general public and residents.

(Solutions)

3. Given this situation, the national Government will implement safety assessments based on new procedures and rules that utilize stress tests as introduced by countries in

Europe as a source of reference. These safety assessments are for the purpose of further improving the safety of nuclear power stations and ensuring the peace of mind and trust with regard to safety by the general public and residents.

In specific terms, based on a request from the Nuclear Safety Commission of Japan (NSC) (July 6), the following safety assessments will be implemented. These safety assessments will entail the compilation of items for assessment and an assessment implementation plan confirmed by the NSC (that are not required under current laws and regulations), and the safety assessments will be carried out by power station operators in accordance with the stipulated assessment items and implementation plan. The results of the assessments will be confirmed by the NISA and their validity will be further confirmed by the NSC.

- Primary Assessment (Decision on whether to restart operations at nuclear power stations currently suspended for the purpose of regularly scheduled checks)

This is an assessment that will be implemented in sequence at nuclear power stations during regularly scheduled checks, which have completed preparations to restart operations. The purpose is to assess the degree of the margin of safety in response to events that surpass the safety design scenarios of important facilities and equipment, etc.

- Secondary Assessment (Decision on whether to continue or halt operations at nuclear power stations that are currently in operation)

In addition, based on the implementation of stress tests in European countries and the status of deliberations in the Investigation and Verification Committee on the Accidents at the Fukushima Nuclear Power Station of Tokyo Electric Power Company, this assessment is for the purpose of implementing an overall safety evaluation at all nuclear power stations, including those that are currently in operation and also those that are subject to the primary assessment.