Regarding Conducts of Investigations on Radiation Monitoring and the Concentration Measurement of Radioactive Materials of the Disaster Waste at the Temporary Storage Sites in Fukushima Prefecture

Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency (hereinafter referred to as “NISA”) and Ministry of the Environment, with cooperation of Fukushima Prefecture and the municipalities concerned, will conduct investigations to grasp both the degree of contamination by radioactive materials of the disaster waste piled up and the air dose rate at the temporary storage sites in Fukushima Prefecture and their surrounding areas.

1. From geographical and air dose rates points of view, NISA will conduct investigations to grasp the degree of contamination by radioactive materials of the disaster waste at 12 temporary storage sites, each in different situation, located in Fukushima prefecture.

   ● Investigative Body
     Japan Nuclear Energy Safety Organization commissioned by NISA

   ● Investigation date/period
     Approximately for 9 days from May 9 (Mon)

   ● Details of Investigation
     The following (1) to (3) investigations are planned at 12 temporary storage sites of disaster waste in Hamadori and Nakadori areas of Fukushima Prefecture (excluding Evacuation Areas and Deliberate Evacuation Areas).

     (1) Investigation of the surface dose rates of disaster waste and collection of samples
Considering uneven contamination of the piles of disaster waste, the radioactive dose rates near the surface of the disaster waste piles will be measured in order to collect appropriate analysis samples. The samples will be collected in such a way that average value of the concentration of radioactive materials of the disaster waste piles can be obtained from the results. Moreover, if the disaster waste is sorted out (metal scraps, wood chips, concrete blocks, etc.) at the site, samples shall be collected by each sort.

(2) Measurement of the concentration of radioactive materials of the samples collected from the disaster waste

The samples collected in (1) will be transferred to an analysis facility and their concentration of radioactive materials will be measured.

(3) Detailed investigations of the contamination by radioactive materials of the disaster waste

The average concentration of radioactive materials of the disaster waste piles and air dose rate will be measured with portable GE (germanium) semiconductor detector and NaI survey meter at site. The relationship between the results from (2) above and this measurement will be compiled.

2. Measurement investigations of radiation at the temporary storage sites will be conducted by Ministry of the Environment as follows;

- Investigative Body
  Ministry of the Environment will conduct it with assistance of Fukushima prefecture, the municipalities concerned and Japan Chemical Analysis Center.

- Investigation date/period
  From May 9 (Mon) to 12 (Thurs) (plan)

- Details of Investigation
  The following (1) and (2) investigations are planned at all temporary storage sites of disaster waste in Hamadori and Nakadori areas of Fukushima Prefecture (excluding Evacuation Areas and Deliberate Evacuation Areas.)

(1) Investigation of the situations of the storage sites
  Sorts (metal scraps, concrete blocks, wood chips, plastics, etc.), amount,
storage situation of the disaster waste will be recorded. In addition, photographs of the disaster waste by pile and its surrounding situations, etc. will be taken.

(2) Measurement of the air dose rate

With NaI (sodium iodide) survey meter, the air dose rates will be measured at multiple points around the disaster waste at the temporary storage sites.

3. Future plans

Investigation results are planned to be released expeditiously after the investigation is completed.

NISA will evaluate the relationship between the concentration of radioactive materials and the air dose rates of the disaster waste measured and utilize it in future processing/disposal of the disaster waste.

Ministry of the Environment also plans to open an investigative commission of experts and analyze/evaluate the investigation results.

(Contact Person)
Mr. Toshihiro Bannai
Director, International Affairs Office
NISA/METI
Phone: +81-(0)3-3501-1087