January 27, 2012
Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency

Regarding Items Reflecting on Seismic Safety Evaluation of Nuclear Power Plants, etc. in Light of the Knowledge of Ground Motion Learned from Tohoku District-Off the Pacific Ocean Earthquake in 2011

This is to inform the public that the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency (NISA) directed nuclear licensees to re-examine the issues regarding Tohoku District-Off the Pacific Ocean Earthquake in 2011, which should reflect seismic safety evaluation, from the view point of promptly ensuring seismic safety of the nuclear power plants, etc., in light of the state of the review in the “hearings on the earthquake and tsunamis” at this stage, investigation, and research, etc. by the relevant organizations.

1. Responding to occurrence of Tohoku District-Off the Pacific Ocean Earthquake on March 11th, 2011 (Hereinafter referred to as “the earthquake at this time”), NISA held the “hearings on the earthquake and tsunamis” to analyze and evaluate the ground motion in Fukushima Dai-ichi and Dai-ni NPSs, TEPCO, Onagawa NPS, Tohoku Electric Power Co., Inc., and Tokai Dai-ni NPS, Japan Atomic Power Co., Inc. Also, NISA has organized the knowledge learned from the earthquake at this time and reviewed the items which should reflect on the seismic safety evaluation of the nuclear power plants, etc.

2. NISA has preliminarily compiled the following items as the items which should be examined in seismic safety evaluation from the view point of expeditiously ensuring seismic safety in light of the current study and examination at the “hearings” and by the relevant organizations. Upon this, NISA directed each nuclear licensee to examine the interlocking of active faults, considering the following items.

   (1) To re-examine the possibility of interlocking of the active faults whose interlocking used to be denied because of having five kilometers or more distance between them, in consideration of landform, the geological structure formation process (tectonics), and the state of stress, etc., when
the interlocking of the active faults in the inland crust is reviewed.

(2) When interlocking of the active faults is denied in re-examination of the above (1), the main reason for the denial should not be based on the length of the faults estimated from the largest past earthquake which struck on the area.

Appendix: Regarding Items reflecting Seismic Safety Evaluation of Nuclear Power Plants in light of the Knowledge of Ground Motion Learned from Tohoku District-Off the Pacific Ocean Earthquake in 2011 (Interim Draft)

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