Implementation of the restriction of electricity use under the Electricity Business Act

From July 1, the restriction of electricity use under Article 27 of the Electricity Business Act was implemented, targeting large customers within TEPCO and Tohoku EPCO service areas. (overview is as follows.)

Large customers who are subject to the restriction may experience some inconvenience. However, we would like them to understand the present status of electricity supply-demand balance and the purpose these restrictions.

1. Subjects
   The large customers (with contracts of 500 kW or more electricity) who have concluded supply-demand agreements directly with TEPCO and Tohoku EPCO and Specified-Scale Electricity Utilities within the supply areas of TEPCO and Tohoku EPCO
   Customers subject to the restriction will be determined per contract (per establishment).

2. Restriction period and time
   TEPCO service area: July 1, 2011 to September 22, 2011 (weekdays) / 9:00 to 20:00
   Tohoku EPCO service area: July 1, 2011 to September 9, 2011 (weekdays) / 9:00 to 20:00
   *No restriction will be imposed on Saturdays, Sundays and national holidays.

3. Restriction contents
   In principle, the upper limit of electricity use shall be 15% reduced from the “maximum electricity use in the same period and time in the previous year (per hour)”.  
   A person who violates the restriction of electricity use intentionally shall be punished by a fine of not more than 1 million yen.
   *The restriction of use is violated when the electricity use exceeds the maximum electricity use on a one hour basis (from [X] to [X + 1 hour]). Even if the maximum electricity use is exceeded at a certain moment, it is not regarded as a violation.
   *The judicial branch will finally determine whether the violation was “intentionally” conducted or not, depending on circumstances of individual case. However, electricity use in case of emergency (in case of accident) or excess use of the maximum value due to the malfunction of equipment may not be deemed illegal.
4. Others

We will accept applications for schemes to jointly restrict electricity use or relax the restriction, as necessary. For details regarding the system including these matters, please see the website below: (http://www.meti.go.jp/earthquake/shiyoseigen/index.html) in Japanese.