October 28, 2011
Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency

Regarding the Reception of Verification Results of Seismic Observation Data Based on the 2011 Off the Pacific Coast of Tohoku Earthquake, Obtained at the Reprocessing Facility of the Nuclear Fuel Cycle Engineering Laboratories of Tokai Research and Development Center, Japan Atomic Energy Agency

This is to inform the public that the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency (NISA) received a report on August 30 from the Incorporated Administrative Agency Japan Atomic Energy Agency (hereinafter referred to as "JAEA") regarding the seismic observation data based on the 2011 Off the Pacific Coast of Tohoku Earthquake, which was obtained at the Reprocessing Facility of the Nuclear Fuel Cycle Engineering Laboratories of JAEA Tokai Research and Development Center (hereinafter referred to as "the Tokai Reprocessing Facility"), and instructed them to submit a report on the detailed verification results. Today, NISA received a report from JAEA on the detailed verification results of the seismic observation data.

The report says that the seismic observation data which was obtained this time is useful for the seismic response analysis and so on, according to the proved consistency of spectral shape and spectral amplitude obtained from the data observed in the site vicinity and on the seismometer installed at the site.

NISA will make an in-depth investigation on the report and will closely verify through investigations on operational safety inspection if the seismic response analysis and so on, which are conducted by JAEA, are properly performed.

1. On August 30, 2011, NISA received a report from JAEA on "the seismic observation data" obtained at the Tokai Reprocessing Facility, with regard to the 2011 Off the Pacific Coast of Tohoku Earthquake occurred on March 11, 2011. Since the seismic observation data is a prerequisite for the seismic response analysis which is used for the integrity assessment of the facility, NISA requested JAEA to submit a report on the detailed verification results of the seismic observation data (already announced on August 30).
2. The report says that the seismic observation data which was obtained this time is very useful for the integrity assessment of the facility such as the ground response analysis, building response analysis and so on, according to the proved consistency of spectral shape and spectral amplitude obtained from the data observed in the site vicinity and on the seismometer installed at the site.

3. Errors were identified in the direction of measurement by the seismometer, in the process of in-depth investigations of the seismic observation data which were conducted by JAEA this time. JAEA reported to NISA that the direction of measurement by the seismometer has been corrected, and that no errors have been identified in the direction of installation of other seismometers. JAEA also reported that the observation data obtained from the seismometer which showed errors will not be used for the integrity assessment of the facility so that the assessment results will not be affected.

4. NISA will make an in-depth investigation on the report and will closely verify through investigations on operational safety inspection if the seismic response analysis and so on, which are conducted by JAEA, are properly performed and if the countermeasures to prevent recurrence of the errors in the direction of measurement by seismometers are appropriately implemented.

Appendix: Regarding the Verification Results of Seismic Observation Data Based on the 2011 Off the Pacific Coast of Tohoku Earthquake, Obtained at the Reprocessing Facility of the Nuclear Fuel Cycle Engineering Laboratories of Tokai Research Development Center, Japan Atomic Energy Agency

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