The Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency (NISA) confirmed the current situation of Fukushima Dai-ichi Nuclear Power Station (NPS), Tokyo Electric Power Co., Inc. (TEPCO) as follows:

Major updates are as follows:

1. Nuclear Power Stations (NPSs)
   - Fukushima Dai-ichi NPS (TEPCO)
     - Since an increasing trend was observed in part of the temperature of the atmosphere in PCV in Unit 1, the nitrogen injection volume into the PCV was changed from 18m³/h to 23m³/h (from 20:48 to 20:52, March 16).
     - Accumulated water in the basement of the turbine building in Unit 2 was transferred to the miscellaneous solid waste reduction processing facilities (from 8:47, March 11 to 9:37, March 18).
     - Accumulated water in the basement of the turbine building in Unit 2 was transferred to the radioactive waste treatment facilities (from 10:13, March 18).
     - Due to preparation for checking the inside of the PCV in Unit 2, the nitrogen injection volume into the PCV was changed from 10m³/h to 5m³/h (at 10:33, March 19). The temporal change of the plant parameters has been/will be continuously monitored, and the nitrogen injection volume has been/will be changed and the ventilation volume has been/will be adjusted depending on the monitoring results. The nitrogen injection volume into the RPV is not changed.
     - Accumulated water in the basement of the turbine building in Unit 3 was transferred to the miscellaneous solid waste reduction processing facilities (from 8:46, March 15 to 10:00, March 18, and from 8:41, March 19).
     - Due to an overhaul of valves, an exchange of strainers, and others of the primary cooling system of the spent fuel pool in Unit 3, the cooling system of the spent fuel pool was suspended (from 9:38, March 18). It is estimated that there will be an increase of the temperature by approximately 20
degrees Celsius during the suspension period, which causes no problem in the management of the spent fuel pool.

- Along with starting an operation of the switchyard (66kV switchyard on the south side), switching of the power receiving in the power supply line was conducted as it follows:

  Due to switching the power receiving of the normal metal-clad gear and the backup metal-clad gear of the process building the cesium absorption device was suspended (from 10:01 to 14:55, March 16), and later, the rated flow (19.8m³/h) was reached (at 14:58, March 16). Also, the 2nd cesium absorption device was suspended (from 10:02 to 14:32, March 16), and later, the rated flow (42.6m³/h) was reached (at 14:36, March 16).

  Due to switching the power receiving of the temporary metal-clad gear (B) for Units 3 and 4 (from 7:34 to 15:41, March 18), the water level gauge of the reactor building in Unit 4 and the water level gauge of the radioactive waste treatment facility building in Unit 4 were suspended.

  Due to switching the power receiving of the temporary metal-clad gear (A) for Units 3 and 4 (from 7:26, March 19), the reactor monitoring facility in Unit 3, the spent fuel pool cooling system in Unit 3, the spent fuel pool cooling system in Unit 4, and the common pool cooling system were suspended.

  In this regard, when the cooling systems were suspended, the water temperature of the spent fuel pool in Unit 4 was 28 degrees Celsius, and the estimated increasing rate of the temperature was approximately 0.55 degrees Celsius/h, and the water temperature of the common pool was 21.3 degrees Celsius, and the estimated increasing rate was 0.23 degrees Celsius/h. Since the suspension period is scheduled to be 12 hours, there will be sufficient allowance and have no problem in terms of the pool water temperature.

2. Actions by NISA
[March 19]

  NISA conducted the nuclear safety inspections for Fukushima Dai-ichi NPS, TEPCO, on March 29, and between February 6 and 24, 2012, for the first time since the accident. As a result of the inspections, it was confirmed that in the safety management for seven facilities in Fukushima Dai-ichi NPS, part of the maintenance plans of these seven facilities stipulating the basic items for maintenance management including frequency and contents of the inspections were not formulated, which was evaluated as “violation” (1 case). Also, seven minor violations were confirmed (“supervision”).
Regarding the confirmed “violation”, NISA strictly alerted TEPCO and requested it to identify the cause and to improve the situation.

<Temporary access into restricted areas>

- Temporary access into the following towns and city was allowed to residents:
  - The third round
    - Naraha Town (March 17)
    - Namie Town (March 17)
    - Ookuma Town (March 18)
    - Tomioka Town (March 18)
    - Minamisoma City (March 18)

For more information: NISA English Home Page