

**Summary of Comments Made at a Press Conference
by Tsunehisa Katsumata, FEPC Chairman, on July 13, 2007**

There are two things I would like to report on today. The first is the CO₂ emission reduction effectiveness of heat pumps, which is central to the “1 Person, 1 Day, 1 Kilogram” citizen’s campaign. The second concerns the recycling of waste from decommissioned nuclear power plants.

In May of this year, Prime Minister Abe announced his long-term strategy to create a low-carbon society, “Invitation to Cool Earth 50,” and in it, he suggested the implementation of a “1 Person, 1 Day, 1 Kilogram” citizen’s campaign to reduce CO₂ emissions.

To achieve these reductions, the strategy suggests that citizens review their lifestyles, and take steps such as conserving water when showering, driving more ecologically, and taking their own bag along when shopping. With regard to electricity use, it suggests that citizens adjust cooling and heating temperatures, and avoid the use of standby mode on electric appliances by switching off the main power instead.

To help suppress CO₂ emissions, the electric power industry is, of course, striving to increase generating efficiency and the use of nuclear and new energy sources, and with regard to usage, we are encouraging active use of cooling and heating temperature adjustment, and as I described at the press conference in May, the use of “household eco-accounting book” practices.

But even if citizens of the nation do review various aspects of their lifestyles, achieving the goal of “1 Person, 1 Day, 1 Kilogram” will be an extremely difficult task that requires considerable effort.

In view of this, we believe increased use of heat pump equipment that utilizes clean, inexhaustible atmospheric heat is the key to “1 Person, 1 Day, 1 Kilogram” reduction of CO₂ emissions.

Heating and hot water account for 60% of residential energy consumption, and of that amount, 90% is currently provided by fossil fuel combustion. According to data provided by the Heat Pump and Thermal Storage Technology Center of Japan, using heat pump systems for residential hot water and heating

alone would result in a per person, per day reduction in CO₂ emissions of 510g for hot water and 650g for heating.

Combining these reductions with those that result from the government-promoted lifestyle review will therefore enable us to surpass the target of 1kg by a wide margin.

Heat pump technology is a proven technology, and can yield great benefits if it is more widely utilized. It should therefore be positioned as the linchpin of our efforts to find realistic solutions to the problem of global warming. The government has set up a system to support increased heat pump installation, and has taken the initiative in promoting heat pump use. The electric power industry, too, will work in concert with the government, and will spare no effort in expanding heat pump use.

This month is “Thermal Storage Month,” and to celebrate its 10th anniversary, many government agencies and business organizations are supporting and participating in a campaign with the slogan: “Take action, Japan. Let’s fight global warming with heat pumps and thermal storage.”

In addition, we will be holding an “Energy Solution & Thermal Storage Fair” at Tokyo Big Site for three days, beginning on the 25th of this month. We will be showing various high-performance equipment and systems, and will introduce examples of successful installations, so please be sure to join us.

I would now like to comment on the recycling of waste from decommissioned nuclear power plants.

Beginning in about 2030, replacement of nuclear power plants is expected to begin in earnest, and the decommissioning of existing reactors will produce a large quantity of waste material.

The great majority of the material will be ordinary non-radioactive waste. For other extremely low-level radioactive waste that emits less than 1/100th the level of radiation found in nature, and whose effect on human health can be ignored, a clearance system was established in December 2005 to allow such material to be recycled contingent on government approval.

Utilizing this system in the nation’s first such recycling effort, the Japan Atomic Power Company recovered metal during the decommissioning of the Tokai

power plant, and having received approval from the government in May of this year, last month began shipping the material to a foundry after measuring its radiation level.

The melted-down metal is slated to be used in shielding material at the high-intensity proton accelerator facility under construction in Tokaimura, as well as in tables, benches, and construction blocks.

In order for the clearance system to function smoothly and allow maximum utilization of waste materials that are a serviceable resource, the electric power industry believes that it is extremely important to establish a track record of processed items that have been created from recycled material.

To this end, items for daily use such as tables and benches will for the time being be used at Japan Atomic Power Company facilities. In the future, each of the electric power companies will consider purchasing such items, gradually expanding the number of locations where they are used so that proper utilization can be achieved.

Looking even further into the future, we hope that society at large will understand the importance of the clearance system, and will cooperate with us by viewing it as one element in the drive to create a sustainable society.