

**Summary of Comments Made at a Press Conference  
by Shosuke Mori, FEPC Chairman, on June 12, 2009**

I would like to report now on three issues: a review of the pluthermal program (utilization of plutonium in light water reactors), the outlook for electricity supply and demand this summer, and some changes in FEPC board of directors.

1. A Review of the Pluthermal Program

Firstly, I would like to report on a review of the pluthermal program and the plans for the utilization of plutonium to be recovered at the Rokkasho reprocessing plant.

Eleven power companies, excluding the Okinawa Electric Power Co., Inc. and including nine other regional electric power companies, the Japan Atomic Power Company, Ltd. and the Electric Power Development Co., Ltd., set the objective to carry out pluthermal programs to use the plutonium recovered from the reprocessing of spent nuclear fuel at 16 to 18 nuclear reactors throughout the country by fiscal 2010 and have hitherto worked hard in order to establish the nuclear fuel cycle as Japan's basic policy.

As a result of these efforts, three electric power companies, Chubu Electric Power Co., Inc., Shikoku Electric Power Co., Inc., and Kyushu Electric Power Co., Inc., received a shipment of MOX fuel from France at the end of last month and are expected to carry out pluthermal programs shortly. In addition, other power companies have concluded a fuel fabrication contract with manufacturers or submitted proposals for pluthermal programs to host municipalities. Thus, the pluthermal program has made considerable progress. In April this year, Japan Nuclear Fuel Limited revised the scheduled date of placing its MOX fuel fabrication plant into operation from 2012 to 2015.

On the second of this month, the Chairman of the Japan Atomic Energy Commission suggested that "the pluthermal programs that have so far been made public should be revised promptly to make them more easily acceptable to the public," in order to ensure transparency in the use of plutonium, since overseas stakeholders are keenly interested in the progress of Japan's

plutonium utilization program.

We therefore convened today the MOX Energy Promotion Council, which is composed of the presidents of power companies, to review the processes of the pluthermal program.

In the recent review, members of the Japanese electric power industry carefully considered the pluthermal program processes by taking account of the views of host communities of nuclear facilities, the MOX fuel manufacturing schedule and the shipping processes from abroad, on the major premise that pluthermal programs are carried out at 16 to 18 reactors throughout the country as early as possible in accordance with Japan's policy of not owning plutonium which cannot be accounted for.

The review allowed us to mutually confirm our intention of continuing to work toward a new plan to "carry out pluthermal programs at 16 to 18 nuclear reactors across the country by fiscal 2015 at the latest, when the MOX fuel fabrication plant comes on line".

As a result, the processes implemented thus far will be delayed; we sincerely apologize to host communities of nuclear facilities and to those who understand and support our initial plan to carry out pluthermal programs by fiscal 2010.

However, in order for us to continue to provide a steady supply of energy in Japan which lacks energy resources, it is essential to establish a nuclear fuel cycle, so we remain determined to carry out the pluthermal programs in view of their recognized importance. Your continued understanding and support would be highly appreciated.

In keeping with the recent review of the pluthermal program, we also reviewed the plans for the utilization of plutonium to be recovered at the Rokkasho reprocessing plant, which was announced in March this year.

Major changes include changing the date of starting to use recovered plutonium from fiscal 2012 to fiscal 2015 to coincide with the changed date for starting operation of the MOX fuel fabrication plant.

The amount of plutonium that will come into our possession is based on the actual figures since the March 6 announcement.

## 2. An Outlook for Electricity Supply and Demand This Summer

I would now like to report on an outlook for electricity supply and demand this summer.

According to the Meteorological Agency's three-month weather forecast, the average temperature this summer is predicted to be approximately average or a little higher, except in northern Japan.

Based on this weather forecast and the past results, the peak demand that the ten electric power companies will have to meet this summer is estimated at 178,560,000 kW.

Meanwhile, we are planning to ensure approximately 199,540,000 kW of supply capacity, thus reserving a supply margin of approximately 20,000,000 kW, or 12%.

However, a rise in temperature of just one degree in the daytime during which the temperature exceeds 30 degrees centigrade increases the peak demand by approximately 5,000,000 kW throughout the country, which is equivalent to the output of five nuclear reactors. Moreover, there is no guarantee that some contingencies such as an unexpected failure in electric facilities will not happen.

Members of the Japanese electric power industry are determined to pull together and do everything possible to ensure a stable supply of electricity this summer as they did last year.

## 3. Changes in FEPC Board of Directors

Lastly, I would like to report on some changes in FEPC board of directors, which was decided at today's General Policy Meeting.

In this board reorganization, Vice Chairman Tokiwa from Shikoku Electric Power Co., Inc. and Senior Managing Director Ito will retire, with their places succeeded by Mr. Nagahara, President of Hokuriku Electric Power Co., Inc. and by Mr. Kume, Director of Chubu Electric Power Co., Inc. respectively.

This concludes my report. Thank you.