

Summary of Press Conference Comments Made by Satoru Katsuno,
FEPC Chairman, on September 15, 2017

I am Satoru Katsuno, Chairman of FEPC.

At 6:57 AM today, North Korea has launched a missile, but we have not confirmed any effects at power generation facilities so far.

Incidentally, today is also my turn to speak as the president of Chubu Electric. I would like to first begin as the chairman of FEPC, discussing the following three issues: “Discussions of the Strategic Energy Plan”, “CO2 emission in FY2016”, and the “Nationwide Map of Scientific Features for Geological Disposal”. Afterwards, I would like to speak as the president of Chubu Electric.

First of all, we have been facing maintenance issues at Japan Nuclear Fuel (JNFL)’s reprocessing plants and uranium enrichment plants, which have been reprimanded by the Nuclear Regulation Authority. I would like to express my sincere apologies.

Currently, JNFL is doing their best to investigate the causes and prevent recurrence. We would like to provide necessary support to the best of our abilities.

<Discussions of the Strategic Energy Plan>

Now, I would like to talk about my first topic, “discussions of the Strategic Energy Plan”.

Discussions of the Strategic Energy Plan recommenced within the “Strategic Policy Committee of the Advisory Committee for Natural Resources and Energy”, which was held on the 9th last month.

Additionally, deliberations for the long-term energy selection in view of the year 2050 began in the “Energy Situation Roundtable Conference” that was held on August 30.

In view of S+3E, the current Strategic Energy Plan indicates the importance of constructing a well-balanced energy supply scheme that does not rely on a specific power source or fuel. Furthermore, it describes nuclear power as “an important baseload power source that contributes to the stability of the energy demand and supply structure”, and clearly indicates that the nuclear fuel cycle will continue to be promoted.

Considering that the energy policy will serve as a national backbone to support the daily lives of people and economic activities, we would like for them to have realistic discussions that take into account the scarcity of resources in Japan, and continue to strive for an energy structure that does not rely on a specific power source.

The role that nuclear power, which has an outstanding balance in terms of 3E, plays in the resource-scarce Japan is significant. It is also important to secure a certain amount of nuclear power generation in the future in view of securing safety and maintaining technology / human resources. In order to do that, we will need not only the upcoming restarts of power plants, but also new constructions and replacement in the mid to long term.

<CO2 emission in FY2016>

Secondly, I would like to talk about the “CO2 emission in FY2016”.

The Electric Power Council for a Low Carbon Society is taking initiatives to achieve the goals set forth in the Low Carbon Society Action Plan. They have compiled the bulletin data of CO2 emission in FY 2016.

The total CO2 emission in FY 2016 was 431 million tons, and the CO2 emission factor was 0.516 kg/kWh from sales of electricity. Compared to the previous year, CO2 emission decreased 2.4%, and the CO2 emission factor decreased 2.8%.

This was caused by the increased nuclear power output from the restart of Shikoku Electric Ikata Power Station Unit 3, in addition to introducing the latest-technology high-efficiency thermal power generation facilities and the continuous effort to utilize renewable energy.

The Council will continue to implement the PDCA cycle as a whole, and increase the efficacy of the initiatives to attain the goals. We, members of the FEPC would like to achieve a low carbon society through measures of both the supply side and demand side, such as “utilizing nuclear power with safety as a premise”, “utilizing renewable energy”, “further improvement of efficient thermal power generation and appropriate maintenance”, and “providing energy-saving, low CO2 emission services”.

<Nationwide Map of Scientific Features for Geological Disposal>

Lastly, I would like to talk about the “Nationwide Map of Scientific Features for Geological Disposal”.

As you may know, the government publicized the Nationwide Map of Scientific Features for Geological Disposal, which is related to the geological disposal of high-level radioactive waste.

This map is based on the ideas summarized in the government’s Advisory Committee for Natural Resources and Energy, and it illustrates the local scientific characteristics across the country as a map, upon objectively organizing the extant national data under certain conditions and standards.

We hope that the publication of this map helped the people hold interest and deepen the understanding of the geological conditions across Japan and the system of geological disposal.

Furthermore, an “opinion exchange meeting regarding the Nationwide Map of

Scientific Features for Geological Disposal” will be hosted across the country by the government and NUMO beginning this October.

Since we are fundamentally responsible for producing such waste, we would like to proactively take the lead to activities such as providing straightforward information and places to have discussions with the local people, in order for the people to understand the necessity of geological disposal and the idea of securing safety.

This will conclude my segment as the Chairman of FEPC.