

Summary of the Press Conference of the Outgoing and Incoming FEPC Chairmen,
on June 14, 2019

【Remarks from Chairman Katsuno】

As announced in last month's press conference, I will be retiring as the FEPC Chairman as of today. I will be succeeded by President Iwane of Kansai Electric Power Company.

When I became FEPC Chairman in June 2016, I stated my intention to do my best for the development of the electric power industry despite the mounting challenges. Looking back, it has been indeed, a transformative three years for the electric power industry.

We have worked on recovering the trust of nuclear power and responding to the electric power system reform as important challenges for the industry, as well as increasing electricity resilience and securing stable supply given the natural disasters of last year. We have concentrated on each challenge at hand, cooperated with the presidents of each utility and worked together as an industry to overcome each challenge.

As I mentioned in the Q&A session in last month's chairman press conference, I think we've seen the light at the end of the tunnel for a number of challenges that need to be resolved as an industry to promote electric power system reform such as responding to the legal unbundling of the transmission and distribution division scheduled in April of next year, improving supply and demand of electricity, restarting nuclear power stations, and developing nuclear fuel cycle business environment.

While there are a few things I feel that I have left unfinished such as initiatives to recover trust for nuclear power, I will be retiring as FEPC Chairman as of today and will pass the baton to new Chairman Iwane.

It goes without saying that the new Chairman Iwane is well-versed in the electric power industry as a whole and is a strong leader—I am confident that he is the person best suited to be at the helm of the current electric power industry that is facing so many difficult challenges.

I ask you to please give him your full support.

Finally, I would like to take this time to thank everyone for their support during my tenure. Thank you very much.

【Remarks from New Chairman Iwane】

I am Iwane of Kansai Electric Power Company as just kindly introduced by Chairman Katsuno. I have been appointed the new Chairman of the FEPC.

I want to thank you all for the support you have shown me in the past and would appreciate your continued support.

Chairman Katsuno who will be retiring today has led the electric power industry through an era of major transformation and numerous challenges with acute judgement and strong leadership.

I would like to express my great respects for his efforts and achievements and ask for his continued support.

I feel invigorated by the responsibility of succeeding this important position of FEPC Chairman after Chairman Katsuno in an environment full of challenges, including recovering the public's trust for nuclear power, early restart of nuclear power plants, decommissioning, the nuclear fuel cycle, electric power system reform, and global warming countermeasures.

In regards to nuclear power, we will continue to respond earnestly to the conformity

review for early restart while working to voluntarily and continuously secure safety.

Nuclear power is considered “an option for decarbonization that is at the practical stage” in the Strategic Energy Plan. With this in mind, we will strengthen human resource and technological development in nuclear power, and continue to pursue safety and economic viability in order to prepare for the new and additional installation of power plants and the replacement of power plants.

We will also enhance collaboration between related utilities and put our heads together to tackle common challenges such as the nuclear fuel cycle and decommissioning.

Discussion for the development of a new market to secure and maintain necessary power in the mid-to-long term and the review of the wheeling charge system to create a next-generational transmission and distribution network are also ongoing. I believe that the swift development of an environment that allows for appropriate investments both in power sources and in networks is essential.

We will be actively cooperating with these discussions to continue to provide stable electricity supply and to realize S +3E for generations to come.

I will do my utmost to collaborate with the presidents of each utility to resolve these challenges and to improve Japan’s economy and the lives of the Japanese people through the development of the electric power industry.

Thank you.

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