Summary of the Press Conference of the Outgoing and Incoming FEPC Chairmen, on March 13, 2020

Remarks from Chairman Katsuno

As I mentioned earlier, I will step down as Chairman of FEPC as of today. I will be succeeded by President Kazuhiro Ikebe of Kyushu Electric Power Company.

As I mentioned when I left my role at FEPC as Chairman once in June of last year, since first assuming office in June 2016, I have concentrated on each challenge at hand, cooperated with the presidents of each utility, and ensured that utilities work together as an industry to overcome each challenge.

As a result, I think we have seen the light at the end of the tunnel for several challenges that needed to be resolved as an industry to promote electricity system reform including responding to the legal unbundling of the transmission and distribution division to be implemented on the first of next month, improving supply and demand of electricity, restarting nuclear power stations, and developing a suitable business environment for the nuclear fuel cycle.

After assuming the post of FEPC Chairman again in October of last year given the Kansai Electric Power's gift reception problem, I have been striving to recover the trust of society in the electricity business and in nuclear generation by making a concerted effort to sincerely engage in unending efforts to reinforce compliance by asking the Presidents of each utility to recommit to each other as top management to continue to ensure compliance through the establishment of the Corporate Ethics Committee and the periodic hosting of Committee meetings.

Many initiatives, such as this, are unfinished but I will step down as FEPC Chairman today and pass the baton onto incoming Chairman Ikebe.

It goes without saying that Chairman Ikebe is highly knowledgeable and has a profound understanding of the electricity business in general, which has been fostered through his experience in a wide range of fields. I am confident that he is the true leader that the current electricity industry that is facing many difficult challenges needs.

I ask that you 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 the New Chairman Ikebe]

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

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

Chairman Katsuno who will be stepping down today has led the electricity industry through an era of major transformation that has included major developments in electricity system reform with acute judgment and strong leadership.

Since October 2019, he has been working actively on ensuring compliance in the electricity industry as a whole. I want to express my heartfelt respect for his efforts and achievements.

It goes without saying that I feel invigorated by the responsibility of taking this important position of FEPC Chairman in a time when the electricity industry is surrounded by challenges, including those related to nuclear power, responding to electricity system reform, strengthening electricity resilience, and global warming measures.

We will continue to respond earnestly to the nuclear power plant conformity review for early restart and work to autonomously and continuously secure nuclear power plant safety while continuing unending efforts to ensure compliance within the electricity industry.

We will accelerate initiatives to tackle challenges common to nuclear operators such as the nuclear fuel cycle, decommissioning, and final disposal of high-level radioactive waste, cooperating among related operators.

System reform to make renewable energy into a major power source and wheeling charges system reform to strengthen electricity resilience are extremely important in continuing to maintain stable supply and realizing S+3E.

I believe detailed system design is scheduled to start following Diet deliberations but we will continue to cooperate as electric operators to realize systems and measures that contribute to the sustainable supply of electricity.

Japan will be hosting the Olympic and Paralympic Games this summer. We will take every possible measure to provide stable electricity during the Games, coming together as an industry with each utility taking the initiative in implementing specific measures under the leadership of top management which include "Electricity Cybersecurity Measures Committee" initiatives.

I will cooperate with the presidents of utilities to do my best to chip away at these challenges and to contribute to improving Japan's economy and the livelihoods of the public by developing the electricity business.

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