

Summary of Press Conference Comments Made by Kazuhiro Ikebe, FEPC
Chairman, on October 16, 2020

I am Kazuhiro Ikebe, Chairman of the Federation of Electric Power
Companies.

Today I would like to talk about the “literature survey for the high-level
radioactive waste geological disposal business” and “preliminary figures for
CO2 emissions in FY2019”.

<On the “literature survey for the high-level radioactive waste geological
disposal business”>

First, I would like to talk about the “literature survey for the high-level
radioactive waste geological disposal business”.

As I’m sure you all are aware, on October 9, Suttsu-cho, Hokkaido applied
to the Nuclear Waste Management Organization of Japan (hereinafter
NUMO) for a literature survey for high-level radioactive waste geological
disposal, and Kamoenai-mura, also in Hokkaido announced that it will accept
the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry’s proposal for a literature
survey.

We are very grateful that Suttsu-cho and Kamoenai-mura are showing an
interest in the final disposal business and that they have made the decision
to conduct a literature survey. I would like to express my heartfelt respect
for those involved.

We understand that over the course of the literature survey conducted by
NUMO, there will be opportunities for dialogue within the region. We hope
everyone will be able to gain a deeper understanding of the disposal business,
taking those opportunities to listen to the opinions of the local residents and
engage in discussions.

We have a basic responsibility as generators of high-level radioactive waste. With this in mind, we will continue to cooperate with Japanese government and NUMO, and engage in dialogue with local residents to deepen their understanding of the disposal business and to attract their interest in the issue.

We hope that going forward, interest in the disposal business will spread across Japan to as many people as possible.

<On the “preliminary figures for CO2 emissions in FY2019”>

Now I would like to talk about the “preliminary figures for CO2 emissions in FY2019”.

The Electric Power Council for a Low Carbon Society has put together the preliminary figures for CO2 emissions in FY2019 as part of its efforts to achieve the targets set out in its Low Carbon Society Action Plan.

According to Council calculations, in FY2019, 345 million tons of CO2 were emitted and the CO2 emissions factor was 0.444kg per 1 kWh of electricity sold. CO2 emissions fell by approximately 7.3% and the CO2 emissions factor by approximately 4.1% compared to last year.

Both the amount of CO2 emissions and the CO2 emissions factor have been falling for five consecutive years since the Council was established.

This is a result of continuous efforts to use nuclear power generation with safety as the major premise as well as renewable energy, and to introduce cutting-edge high-efficiency thermal power generation facilities. The increase in the proportion of non-fossil fuel energy in the amount of electricity sold is also another contributing factor.

Nuclear power generation, which does not emit CO2 during generation, is

considered to be an important baseload power source for the future in the Fifth Strategic Energy Plan. It is also considered an “option for decarbonization that is at the practical stage” when looking toward the future of energy in the long-term toward 2050. We as nuclear operators will continue to respond to nuclear regulatory requirements appropriately and work toward securing safety at a higher level for early restart.

Now, renewable energy is also “an important domestic energy source that can be generated completely domestically and contributes to energy security” in addition to its being a zero-carbon power source. The government has made clear in the Fifth Strategic Energy Plan that it is aiming to turn renewable energy into a “main power source”. To further promote the introduction of renewable energy, we utilities as operators who will be actually implementing the initiatives, will also continue to cooperate in the detailed discussions on the Japanese “Connect & Manage” program, the technical and operational details of which are being discussed to maximally utilize existing systems.

To prevent the world-wide challenge of global warming, we believe it is important to continue to promote “low carbonization of power sources” on the supply side and to also work on further reducing CO2 emissions by “promoting electrification” on the demand side. The Council as a whole will run PDCA cycles to enhance the efficacy of targets set out in the Low Carbon Society Action Plan.

<In closing>

In closing, I want to talk about our initiatives to recover trust in the electricity industry.

The 9th Corporate Ethics Committee meeting was also held today where

we received reports on the new findings on the acceptance of money and gifts at Kansai Electric Power .

We, electric power operators, are committed to continuing to recover the people's trust in the electricity business by continuing unending efforts to enforce compliance also taking into account the results of the latest investigation.

This will conclude my segment today.

END