

Summary of Press Conference Comments Made by Nozomu Mori, FEPC
Chairman on May 22, 2026

I am Nozomu Mori of the Federation of Electric Power Companies of Japan.

Today, I would like to address two topics:

1) The decision to conduct a literature survey on the final disposal of designated radioactive waste at Minamitori Island, Ogasawara Village, and 2) All-Japan support for the completion of Japan Nuclear Fuel Limited's Rokkasho Reprocessing Plant.

First, regarding the decision to conduct a literature survey on the final disposal of designated radioactive waste at Minamitori Island, Ogasawara Village, Mayor Shibuya of Ogasawara Village expressed his approval in response to the government's decision to conduct a literature survey for the final disposal of designated radioactive waste at Minamitori Island, Ogasawara Village.

Since the national government requested that a literature survey be conducted on March 3, 2026, Ogasawara Village has been diligently working on the final disposal project by holding events such as the Village residents' briefing session. As FEPC Chairman, I would like to reiterate my heartfelt gratitude and respects to Mayor Shibuya and the local community.

We ask that the government and Nuclear Waste Management Organization of Japan (NUMO) give due consideration to the Ogasawara Village Mayor's requests, which reflect the opinions of the Village community, and continue to work sincerely when conducting the literature survey.

As we mentioned before, the final disposal project is an important challenge that Japan as a whole must continue to discuss. To select scientifically well-suited disposal sites, surveys need to be conducted at multiple locations across Japan. It is very meaningful that locations to be surveyed were expanded, and we must continue to promote further expansion beyond Ogasawara Village.

Nuclear power operators have a fundamental responsibility as the generator of designated radioactive waste. We will continue to cooperate with the government and NUMO to continue dialogue with local communities, engage as many people as possible, and deepen public understanding.

Next, I will talk about the state of All-Japan support for the completion of Japan Nuclear Fuel Limited's Rokkasho Reprocessing Plant.

To promote the fuel cycle policy in Japan, the completion and subsequent full-scale operation of Rokkasho Reprocessing Plant is crucial.

The FEPC established a Cycle Promotion Taskforce in 2022 and has been supporting Japan Nuclear Fuel Limited (JNFL) under an All-Japan framework.

We have seconded 90 to 100 people to assist with ensuring review response is implemented steadily. Since March, in part in response to government requests, around 30 additional people were seconded to Japan Nuclear Fuel Limited to accelerate review response.

This has led to steady progress in the Nuclear Regulation Authority's review of the design and construction plan approval, with explanations expected to be completed after one more review meeting. I hope JNFL will continue to provide thorough explanations until the review is complete.

The FEPC believes it is critical to continue to provide the maximum possible support by leveraging the Cycle Promotion Taskforce and sending experts depending on the status of reviews and inspections including of the Technical Specifications.

We will continue to fully support JNFL on both the technical and management sides, aiming for the completion of the Reprocessing Plant by the end of FY2026.

Finally, I want to touch upon electricity supply and demand for the summer.

The Subcommittee on Building Next-Generation Electricity and Gas Infrastructure recently published its supply and demand outlook for this summer.

The situation in the Middle East continues to be unstable, but operators are currently able to secure necessary amounts in fuel supply for supply capacity. While minimum reserve rates necessary for stable supply is expected to be achieved for all areas across Japan, the reserve rate in Tokyo is projected to be tight at 3%.

As we head into the high demand summer season, there are risks such as demand that is higher than expected due to extreme weather and reductions in supply capacity caused by unplanned outages at power facilities. We will remain highly vigilant in equipment maintenance to ensure sufficient power supply.

Looking toward the summer, the government has set out a policy not to ask the public to conserve energy. Operators also have no plans to ask the public to conserve energy, but conservation of energy is a perspective we must take into account regardless of the supply and demand in resource-poor Japan.

Energy conservation and efficient use of energy, for which we have asked for the public's cooperation, continue to be important initiatives.

In addition, the deployment of high-efficiency water heaters that use heat pumps and installation of insulated windows not only contribute to sustainable energy conservation but also reduce energy costs in the mid-to-long term.

We believe these initiatives to be very beneficial for customers, and ask that you consider adopting them when choosing household appliances or considering renovations.

This concludes my remarks for today.

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