

Information (23:30) Friday, January 10, 2014

To All Missions (Embassies, Consular posts and International Organizations in Japan)

Steam emanating from the top of Unit 3 Reactor Building indicates no abnormality at TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs wishes to inform all Missions that on January 10th Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO) made an announcement in its website and provided information on steam emanating from the top of Unit 3 Reactor Building at TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station (NPS). TEPCO assumed rain which accumulated inside the edge of the Primary Containment Vessel, which is the upper structure of the reactor, as the main cause.

In the statement, TEPCO referred to the fact that steam has been intermittently observed at the top of the Unit 3 Reactor Building since July 18th 2013, and it was observed on days with comparatively low temperature and high humidity and, upon almost all occasions, when rain had fallen before.

TEPCO also stated that no significant changes were found in either the main parameters related to the plant nor the monitoring post readings. TEPCO explained that this indicated no abnormality of the cooling of the reactor, nor dangers to human health. In addition, there has been no significant change in the radiation dose and nuclide analysis results (dust sampling data) compared to those from before the steam was observed.

In the same statement, TEPCO made explanation on Highly-concentrated radioactive material found at the observation holes. TEPCO stated that increase in the value could be attributed to 1) the contaminated water that previously leaked from the tank soaking into the nearby ground, or 2) the effects of the water pumping.

Regarding the earthquakes happened in December, according to the Japanese Meteorological Agency, 13 earthquakes (with a maximum magnitude of 5.4) occurred and originated in the north part of Ibaraki Prefecture on

December 31 2013. TEPCO stated that none of these earthquakes was caused by Fukushima Daiichi NPS. TEPCO also explained that it found no accidents or trouble etc. in Fukushima Daiichi NPS.

The detail of this information is posted on the website of TEPCO in the following link.

http://www.tepco.co.jp/en/announcements/2014/1233524_5932.html

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