Situation and response of JAEA to the Earthquake in Northeastern Japan (Outline of activities on March 11-15)

Summary

Situation of each site

- Checks of facilities were made immediately after the earthquake of March 11.
- Commercial electric supply was stopped at the sites in Ibaraki prefecture. There has been no effect on the environment, no fire accident and no serious injury, although there were some damages to facilities and equipment. Necessity minimum facilities were operated based on electric supply from emergency electric generators using heavy oil or other fuel.
- On March 13, commercial electric supply has resumed and equipment and facilities are in the process of restart in the Nuclear Science Research Institute and the Nuclear Fuel Cycling Engineering Laboratories. In O-arai R&D Center, electric supply has resumed only in the northern half part of the Center. Repair work for the in-site transformer station has been carried out.
- On March 11, electric supply to the Aomori R&D Center was stopped. There was no damage to the facility. Electric supply has been resumed since March 12.
- There has been no abnormality in any other sites (Horonobe, Takasaki, Tono, the Tsuruga Head Office, Monju, Fugen, Kansai, and Ningyotoge).

Assistance to the Fukushima No.1 and No. 2 Nuclear Power Plants

- Nuclear Emergency Assistance & Training Center (NEAT) is assisting activities of the Fukushima No.1 and No. 2 Nuclear Power Plants upon request by Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT).
- Experts from JAEA are participating in the emergency advisory group of The Nuclear Safety Commission of Japan.

Situation of each Site

Nuclear Science Research Institute including J-PARC

• Checks of facilities were made immediately after the earthquake of March 11.

There have been no effects on the environment, no fire accident and no serious injury, although there were some damages to facilities and equipment. Necessity minimum facilities were operated based on electric supply from emergency electric generators using heavy oil or other fuel.

- On March 13, commercial electric supply has resumed since around 15 o'clock and equipment and facilities are in the process of restart.
- Due to the damage to the 1st Administration Building, the use of the building was stopped and the emergency task force was established in a temporary building in front of the 1st Administration Building, and the preparation of equipment is under way.
- At around 7:08 on March 15, the readings of monitoring posts rose, affected by the radioactive materials from the Fukushima No.1 Nuclear Power Plant, and temporarily exceeded 5 μ Sv/h, the level set forth in Article 10 of the Act on Special Measures Concerning Nuclear Emergency Preparedness. Consequently the necessary reports to the authorities were made.
- On March 15, 4 experts of monitoring survey were dispatched to Hitachi Health Center upon request from Ibaraki Prefecture.

Nuclear Fuel Cycling Engineering Laboratories

- Checks of facilities were made immediately after the earthquake of March 11. There has been no effect on the environment, no fire accident and no serious injury, although there were some damages to facilities and equipment. Necessity minimum facilities were operated based on electric supply from emergency electric generators.
- On March 13, commercial electric supply has resumed since around 15:30 and equipment and facilities are in the process of restart until March 14. Other systems are in the process of restart.
- At 7:13 on March 15, the readings of monitoring posts rose, affected by the radioactive materials from the Fukushima No.1 Nuclear Power Plant, and temporarily exceeded $5\,\mu$ Sv/h, the level set forth in Article 10 of the Act on Special Measures Concerning Nuclear Emergency Preparedness. Consequently the necessary reports to the authorities were made.
- On March 15, 2 experts of monitoring survey were dispatched to Hitachi Health Center upon request from Ibaraki Prefecture.

O-arai Research and Development Center

- Checks of facilities were made immediately after the earthquake of March 11. There has been no effect on the environment, no fire accident and no serious injury, although there were some damages to facilities and equipment. Necessity minimum facilities were operated based on electric supply from emergency electric generators using heavy oil or other fuel.
- Commercial electric supply resumed through transformer station of the northern part of the center at around 20:00 on March 13, equipment and facilities are in the process of restart until March 14. The transformer station of the southern part of the center requires repairing work, which is expected to start on or after March 14. Until recovery of the station, necessity minimum facilities operate using emergency electric generators.
- Checks were made on the transformer station of the southern part of the Center on March 14. Repair on the insulator is under way. Because the repair may take time, other countermeasures for early recovery are under consideration at the same time. Necessity minimum facilities are operated based on electric supply from emergency electric generators until the recovery.

Naka Fusion Institute

- Checks of facilities were made immediately after the earthquake of March 11. There has been no effect on the environment, no fire accident and no serious injury, although there were some damages to facilities and equipment. Electricity supply was terminated at around 17:30 and the operation of facilities was stopped.
- The monitoring posts resumed operation at around 19:30 on March 12 using emergency electric generators.
- Situation of damages to equipment and facilities were checked on March 13.
- On March 15, 2 experts of monitoring survey were dispatched to Mito Health Center upon request from Ibaraki Prefecture.

Aomori Research and Development Center

- Checks of facilities were made immediately after the earthquake of March 11. There has been no damage to the facilities.
- Electric supply was resumed to the Ominato facility on March 12 and the Sekinehama facility on March 13.

Head Office (Tokai, Ibaraki)

- Some building facilities have been damaged and the building usage has been suspended.
- Soundness of the Head Office building was checked, and there seems to be no problem. Commercial electric supply resumed at 18:00 on March 15. Water supply is expected to resume on March 16.
- Emergency activities are conducted at the Nuclear Emergency Assistance & Training Center(NEAT).

Other sites

- There has been no trouble in other sites, namely, Horonobe, Takasaki, Tono, Tsuruga Head Office, Monju, Fugen, Kansai, and Ningyotoge
- No abnormality at intakes of sea water at Monju and Fugen.

Assistance to the Fukushima No.1 and No. 2 Nuclear Power Plants Nuclear Emergency Assistance & Training Center (NEAT)

- Emergency activities have been conducted in cooperation with the government.
- Experts of environmental radiation monitoring were dispatched to Fukushima No. 1 Nuclear Power Plant upon request from MEXT. The first group of 7 experts departed at 4:30 by a helicopter from Hyakuri airbase and started monitoring work at 10:00 March 12.
- The second group of 9 experts departed with a monitoring car over the land route and started monitoring work on March 13.
- The third group of 12 monitoring experts arrived on March 14 at a building (called Jichikaikan) of Fukushima local government and started its activities using this place as a base.
- The first group of 7 returned to the NEAT before dawn on March 15.
- The fourth group of 11 experts with 5 vehicles (monitoring 2, mobile whole-body counter 1, body surface contamination counter 1 and body cleansing 1) left NEAT at around noon on March 15 over the land route for activities based on the Fukushima Jichikaikan.
- On March 15, preparation is under way to dispatch experts to perform radiation dose assessment upon request from Fukushima Prefecture.
- On March 15, preparations for installation of resident health consultation hotlines were started.

Emergency advisory group of The Nuclear Safety Commission of Japan

• Two experts of JAEA are participating in the emergency advisory group of The Nuclear Safety Commission of Japan.