

# Environmental Action Report 2018

Tohoku Electric Power Co., Inc.

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## A Message from Our Chief Environmental Management Officer

#### Dear Stakeholders:

## With the aim of realizing a sustainable society, our group will work together to promote environmental protection.

In recent years, interest in realizing a sustainable society has been growing rapidly.

For example, more and more actions have been taken globally to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals adopted by the Paris Agreement at COP21 (the 21st Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change). Environmental, social and governance (ESG) investing in Japan and overseas also has seen a sharp increase. It includes non-financial factors - relating to environment, society and governance - in the investment decisionmaking process.

Looking at domestic environmental and energy policies, the situation surrounding environmental management is changing dramatically. In response, the government revised its Basic Environment Plan in April this year and the Energy Basic Plan in July.

The Tohoku Electric Power Group, as part of its efforts to develop energy services in the six Tohoku prefectures and Niigata Prefecture, has positioned environmental conservation as one of our most important management issues, and we engage in activities related to global warming countermeasures, conservation of the region's environment, and working to achieve a recycling-oriented society.

Going forward, we will continue our efforts toward a sustainable society.

Specifically, since last year, our company group has been promoting environmental management as a team. As one of the activities, we share the basic ideas and direction of the medium-term environmental action plan with corporate group companies.

## We will actively promote measures against global warming based on "S+3E"

To promote countermeasures against global warming, the Paris Agreement entered into force in 2016, and discussions on long-term strategy are gathering pace in Japan.

As a member of the Electric Power Council for a Low Carbon Society, a voluntary group of the Japanese electric power industry, we pursue an optimal energy mix based on "S+3E" (Safety, Energy Security, Economy and Environmental Conservation), and promote a multifaceted response aiming at compatibility with global warming countermeasures.

On the supply side, we are making concrete efforts,

such as working on restarting nuclear power plants with an emphasis on ensuring safety, expanding the use of renewable energy utilizing the characteristics of the region, improving the efficiency of thermal power generation, and reducing power loss during transmission and distribution.

In terms of demand, we have been promoting the efficient use of energy by our customers, such as supporting the introduction of energy-saving heat pump equipment. We are also introducing vehicles with excellent environmental performance in our business activities and practicing energy conservation in our business sites. We will continue to promote all aspects of global warming countermeasures.

#### We constantly strive to further enhance environmental communication and information disclosure.

Our company group actively engages in environmental communication and information disclosure, including publishing environmental reports such as this one.

Regarding specific measures related to environmental information disclosure, we have responded to questionnaires from CDP, an international nongovernmental organization that evaluates corporate information disclosure related to climate change. We also participate in the Environmental Reporting Platform Development Pilot Project conducted by the Ministry of the Environment to identify opportunities to cooperate and communicate between the ministry, corporations and investors.

Being fully aware of stakeholders' growing concern about environmental information disclosure by companies, we will continue our efforts to publicize our company group's stance on environmental issues. We will continue our efforts to disclose complete and correct information and improve communication between our stakeholders and the company group.

Sincerely,

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Hirohisa Yashiro Tohoku Electric Power Co., Ltd. Managing Executive Officer and Chief Environmental Management Officer

October 2018

## **Promotion of Environmental Management**

Based on the management philosophy of "prosper with local communities" and "use creativity in business management," the Tohoku Electric Power Group positions environmental conservation as one of the most important management issues, and we are steadily promoting environmental efforts with the local community based on the "Tohoku Electric Power Group Environmental Policies" and "Medium-Term Environmental Action Plan for FY2018."

## **Tohoku Electric Power Group Environmental Policies**

#### **Basic Stance**

Through our environment-friendly energy service, we work together with the local communities and our customers, aiming for a sustainable society where future children can live safely and in peace.

We strive to ensure a stable supply of energy that is compatible with environmental conservation and economic efficiency, with the premise of ensuring safety as a corporate group aligning with the local communities.

This is our mission, and it will not change in any way in the future.

We appreciate the earth and its bounty, and we respect the traditional values of the people of this region as they coexist with nature. We aim for sustainable growth along with the local communities and our customers. Through good and faithful communications with them, we seriously consider our commitment to environmental issues and take actions to achieve our goal.

#### **Four Principles of Conduct**

- 1. Appreciate the bounty of the earth and carefully use its limited resources
- 2. Minimize environmental impact
- 3. Protect and coexist with the rich natural environment
- 4. Think and act with the local communities and our customers

#### Medium-Term Environmental Action Plan for FY2018 to FY2020

Based on the following two directions, the Medium-Term Environmental Action Plan for FY2018 to FY2020 will steadily and proactively advance measures for five critical issues.

Also, starting in 2018, we share a common direction toward the formulation of the Environmental Action Plan across the entire Group, and with the same recognition and direction, we are working on environmental actions with even greater determination.

#### Group common direction

**Direction 1** - Traditional approach Strengthen relationships of trust with customers and local communities by reducing environmental impact

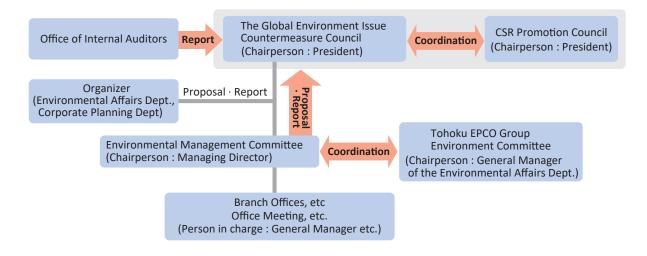
**Direction 2** - Efforts for the future Create economic and social value from an environmental standpoint

#### Important issues in the Medium-Term Environmental Action Plan

- I Promotion of comprehensive global warming countermeasures based on S+3E
- II Contribution to local community with new environmental technologies and energy systems
- III Compliance with environmental laws and regulations, and local environment conservation
- IV Creation of a sustainable, recycling-oriented society
- V Strengthening relationships with stakeholders by promoting environmental communication

## Our Environmental Management Structure

At the Global Environment Issue Countermeasure Council, chaired by the president, we deliberate company-wide environmental management from a comprehensive perspective and promote environmental management aimed at achieving sustainable development together with local communities. In addition, the Environmental Management Committee deliberates company-wide environmental management policies and plans, individual measures, and performance evaluation across multiple departments. The Committee makes proposals and reports to the Global Environmental Issue Countermeasure Council.



### Tohoku Electric Power Group's Environmental Management System (T-EMS)

The Tohoku Electric Power Group Environmental Management System (T-EMS) is an original environmental management system aimed at raising the level of environmental activities throughout the Company group. We are operating based on the "T-EMS Guidelines" formulated with reference to ISO 14001, an international standard for environmental management systems, and Eco Action 21 by Japan's Ministry of the Environment.

For companies that acquire T-EMS certification, qualified ISO 14001 auditors and internal auditors within the Company Group review the status of environmental initiatives, and report to the T-EMS Promotion Committee, which we set up as an internal organization of the Tohoku EPCO Group Environment Committee. The certification expires three years from the registration date, and after that, we conduct maintenance or renewal reviews every year.

The T-EMS is composed of predetermined requirements, following the Plan-Do-Check-Action (PDCA) cycle -- Planning (Plan), implement the plan (Do), confirm/evaluate results (Check), and evaluate and review overall (Action). In this way, we work to continuously improve our environmental efforts.



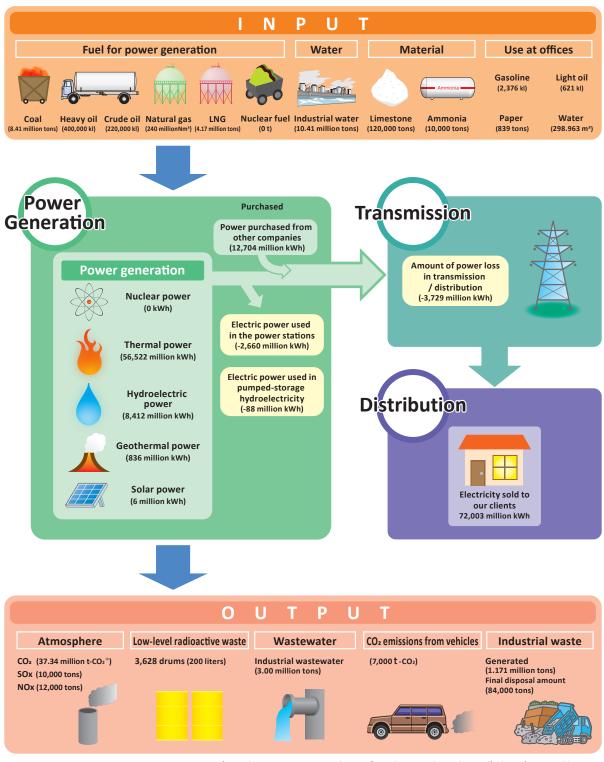
## Results of environmental efforts in FY2017 and self-evaluation

Evaluations of the environmental indicators and measures listed in the Medium-Term Environmental Action Plan for 2017 are as follows.

	Index	FY2016	FY2017			
Detailed measures	(Units)	Results	Targets	Results	Self- assessment	
Measures against global warming from both supply and demand aspects due to energy efficiency improv					vements	
<b>CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reduction</b> We decreased our CO <sub>2</sub> emissions by 7.4%, to 37.75 Million t-CO <sub>2</sub> , and the CO <sub>2</sub> emission factor decreased by 4.6% to 0.523 kg-CO <sub>2</sub> /kWh, compared with the previous fiscal year due to the increase in the water output rate	CO2 emission factor (kg-CO2/kWh)	0.548 *1	Target set by the Electric Power Council for a Low Carbon Society: 0.37 in FY 2030 *2	0.523 *1	_	
<ul> <li>and the expansion of renewable energy.</li> <li>* 1 CO<sub>2</sub> emissions factors that reflect CO<sub>2</sub> credits and adjustments by Feed-In-Tariff scheme for renewable energy (Note) Totals may not match due to rounding.</li> <li>* 2 Target was set by the Electricity Power Council for a Low Carbon Society (ELCS) as industry-wide target, not the target that each member of ELCS shall achieve.</li> </ul>	CO <sub>2</sub> emissions (Million t-CO <sub>2</sub> )	40.55 * <sup>1</sup>	_	37.55 *1	_	
Maintenance and improvement of thermal power plants' efficiency We strove to raise the awareness of plant performance management by "visualization" of the thermal efficiency of each thermal power plant, and maintained and improved thermal efficiency by conducting daily management and performance tests after regular inspections.	Gross thermal efficiency (lower heating value (LHV) standard) (%)	46.3	Improve over current situation	46.2	Mostly Achieved	
<b>Reduction of power loss</b> In addition to the construction of transmission lines, we regularly use "low-loss wire with fin" for replacing aging electric wires, which helps suppress transmission and distribution loss.	Power transmission / distribution loss ratio (%)	5.3	Improve over current situation	4.8	Achieved	
Proposal for a heat pump electrification system to satisfy customers' electricity needs We proposed heat pump equipment with excellent environment friendliness and energy savings to meet customers' needs.	Number of heat pump water heaters introduced (Units)	37,903	Increase from current amount	37,552	Mostly achieved	
Purchasing and expanding connection related to renewable energy As we tried to purchase more electricity from renewable	Solar power generation connected to our grid (Million kW)	3.205	Increase as much	4.021	Achievent	
energy sources and handle with customers' growing requests for connection to our power lines for renewable energy, the amount of customers' solar and wind power generation connected to our grid has increased.	Wind power generation connected to our grid (Million kW)	0.856	as possible	0.992	Achieved	
Building a recycling society						
Effective utilization of industrial waste Despite an increase in the amount of coal ash produced, we strive to maintain an effective utilization rate by securing new suppliers of coal ash. The amount of effective use of other industrial waste also increased. As a result, the effective utilization rate exceeded the previous year. In addition to the coal ash, a large amount of rubble was produced, and we achieved 100% effective use. In addition, we achieved nearly 100% effective use of metal scrap and gypsum.	Effective utilization rate (%)	92.5	90.0	92.8	Achieved	
Environmental management						
<ul> <li>Promotion of measures to strengthen environmental management system</li> <li>Based on the Medium-Term Environmental Action Plan for FY2017, the PDCA cycle of environmental indicators and measures was integrated with operations, aiming at continuous improvement.</li> <li>We developed "eco office activities," in which each employee takes the initiative in promoting efforts to reduce the environmental burden in each office, such as energy and resource conservation activities. We introduced examples of these activities through our internal company website and in-house newsletter, and expanded the practice to each of our business sites.</li> <li>We strove to enhance environmental management throughout the Tohoku Electric Group's Environmental Management System (T-EMS) (23 companies in total).</li> </ul>	Continuation				Achieved	

## Business activities and environmental impact (FY2017 results)

In the electric power business, which is the main focus of our business activities, we use various kinds of resources to generate electricity, and in so doing we discharge environmental burdens such as CO<sub>2</sub> and waste. In order to accurately understand and recognize such types of resource consumption and environmental burden and to reduce their impact, we actively address various environmental issues.



\*Pre-adjustment CO₂ emissions do not reflect adjustments by Feed-in-tariff scheme for renewable energy Note: Totals may not match due to rounding.

## **Realization of Low-Carbon Society**

We give safety the highest priority, and believe that achieving the following three goals at the same time is our mission as an energy business (S+3E): Energy security, Environmental conservation, Economy. We pursue an optimal energy mix based on "S+3E", and promote a multifaceted response aiming at compatibility with global warming countermeasures.



As part of our efforts to realize a low-carbon society, we are working to resume the operation of our nuclear power station as part of our efforts to help develop a low-carbon society, with safety as our top priority. We are also committed to harnessing renewable energy sources, enhancing the efficiency of thermal power generation, and maintaining the appropriate level of thermal efficiency.

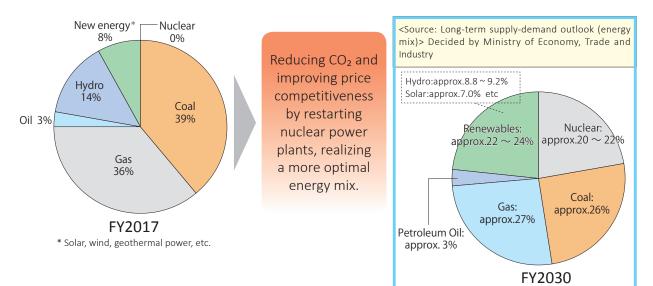
Moreover, we assist our customers with their courses of action to save energy and reduce  $CO_2$  emissions, in order to maximize our efforts to cut  $CO_2$  emissions on the parts of suppliers and consumers.

Main initiatives on supply side	Major initiatives on the demand side
Efforts to restart nuclear powter plants with safety as our top priority	Support for customers' energy conservation and CO <sub>2</sub> reduction efforts
Utilizing renewable energy	Energy saving efforts at our offices
Increase efficiency of thermal generation	

Furthermore, as a member of the Electric Power Council for a Low Carbon Society, we pursue action to reach the goals set in the Action Plan for Low-Carbon Society, such as achieving a  $CO_2$  emission factor of around 0.37kg of  $CO_2$  / kWh in FY2030 throughout the electricity business.

## Power source portfolio of our company (FY2017)

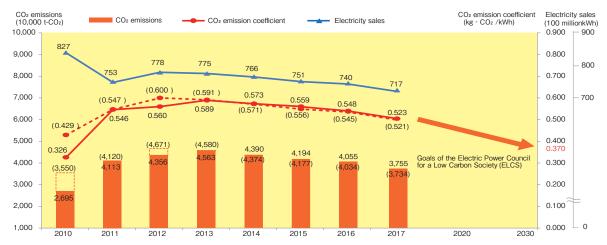
From the viewpoint of S+3E, we have a power supply configuration that mixes various energy resources in a balanced manner.



## CO<sub>2</sub> emissions

Since the Great East Japan Earthquake in 2011,  $CO_2$  emissions have been at a high level due to the prolonged shutdown of nuclear power stations.

In FY2017, electricity generated by thermal power decrease because the flow rate of water from dams increased and more renewable energy was put into use. Our  $CO_2$  emissions (as a retailer) dropped by 4.6% to 37,550,000 tons of  $CO_2$  from the previous year, and our  $CO_2$  emission factor decreased by 2.0% to 0.523 kg of  $CO_2$ /kWh from the previous year.



Values in parentheses are pre-adjustment CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and emission factors. They do not reflect the Feed-In-Tariff scheme for renewable energy.
 Refer to the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry website for information about the adjustment by Feed-in-Tariff scheme for renewable energy.

## Greenhouse-gas emissions results other than CO<sub>2</sub>

We are also working on emission controls for greenhouse gases other than  $CO_2$ , which have a large impact on global warming, such as  $SF_6$  (sulfur hexafluoride) used in power equipment such as gas circuit breakers in our substations.

#### ◆ Recovery rate of SF<sub>6</sub> gas and HFC holding amount · emission amount

(FY2017 result)

SF 6	<ul> <li>[Recovery rate] 99.8%</li> <li>[Applications] Mainly used for insulation materials, etc., in gas circuit breakers</li> <li>[Countermeasures] SF<sub>6</sub> gas recovery equipment to prevent air release</li> </ul>
HFC	<ul> <li>[Holding capacity] 51.2 tons</li> <li>[Emission] 947 t-CO<sub>2</sub></li> <li>[Application] Mainly used for refrigerants etc. in air-conditioning equipment</li> <li>[Countermeasures] Prevent leakage when modifying equipment; collect and reuse</li> </ul>

\* SF<sub>6</sub> : Sulfur hexafluoride; HFC: Hydrofluorocarbon

## Expanding the use of renewable energy

Our company group takes advantage of the rich natural environment in the Tohoku and Niigata regions to actively utilize renewable energy sources such as hydroelectric and geothermal and expand the use of solar and wind power generation.

In 2015, we established Tohoku Sustainable & Renewable Energy Co. Inc., by merging four renewable power generation companies. The company is working on promoting the renewable energy business, as part of the entire Company group's goal of achieving output of 400,000 kW\* in 2030.

We unified the organization relating to hydroelectric generation in July 2017, and we are developing plans to renew aging hydroelectric power plants, as well as a system to promote a new hydropower plan through technical assistance to Group companies.

\* Adding to the existing steam-based output conversion of more than 100,000 kW, we aim to double the capacity of 150,000 kW.

#### Hydroelectric power generation

Tohoku EPCO Group has the largest number of hydropower plants in Japan (209)\*<sup>1</sup> (about 2.45 million kW in total), and together with 19 hydroelectric plants owned by group companies (about 130,000 kW), the total output is about 2.58 million kW.

In addition, our company and group companies are working on effective utilization of water resources through the establishment and renewal of hydropower stations.

At the Kanose Power Station in Niigata Prefecture, which was showing signs of age, we have undertaken a large-scale renewal of the power plant, upgraded the turbine generators, replacing the six water turbines with two highly efficient water turbines and installing a highly efficient vertical valve turbocharger. This increased output by about 10% (49,500 kW to 54,200 kW) as maximum output without changing the amount of water used. The plant resumed operations in September 2017.

#### Solar power generation

Our company has mega solar power plants<sup>\*1</sup> at Hachinohe, Sendai and Haramachi, and a solar power plant at Ishinomaki-Hebita.

Based on the operation of these four solar power plants, we estimate that it will lead to an annual reduction of approximately 2,600 tons<sup>\*2</sup> of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. This is equivalent to about 1,600 households' CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per year due to electricity use.

In addition, the total amount of solar power generation connected to our grid reached approximately 4.02 million kW at the end of FY2017.

- \*1 Large-scale photovoltaic power plants with output of 1 MW (1,000 kW) or more
- \*2 Model case of general household uses electric energy amounting to 260 kWh per month as the calculated value.

As for newly established hydroelectric power plants, we started commercial operations of Tsugaru Power Station (Aomori Prefecture: maximum 8,500 kW) and 2nd Yabugami Power Station (Niigata Prefecture: maximum 4,500 kW) in 2016.

\*1 Number of hydroelectric power plants as of end of 2016.



Kanose Hydroelectric Power Station

Our Solar Power Stations: Overview					
Solar Power Station	Output	Approximate amount of generated electricity (assumption: capacity factor of 12%)	Operating since		
Hachinohe	1,500 kW	1.6 million kWh/year (equivalent to electricity used by 500 households per year* <sup>2</sup> )	Dec. 2011		
Sendai	2,000 kW	2.1 million kWh/year (equivalent to electricity used by 700 households per year)	May 2012		
Haramachi	1,000 kW	1.05 million kWh/year (equivalent to electricity used by 300 households per year)	Jan. 2015		
Ishinomaki Hebita	300 kW	310,000 kWh/year (equivalent to electricity used by 100 households per year)	Mar. 2016		

#### Wind power generation

The Tohoku region is blessed with favorable wind conditions, and we have been working to expand the introduction of wind power generation by conducting demonstration tests of wind power generation in Tappi Wind Park (Aomori Prefecture) since 1991.

Wind power generation facilities connected to our grid reached approximately 990,000 kW as of the end of fiscal 2017, the highest amount in the country.

#### Geothermal power generation

Since the start of operations of the Kakkonda geothermal power plant in Iwate Prefecture in 1978, we have been actively working on the introduction of geothermal electricity generation.

The company group as a whole has six plants in five sites in the Tohoku region as of the end of FY2017 and has the most geothermal generation facilities in Japan (about 40% of the whole country), with a total output of 212,300 kW. The amount of electricity generated in FY2017 is approximately 986 million kWh, enough to supply about 290,000 households per year.\*

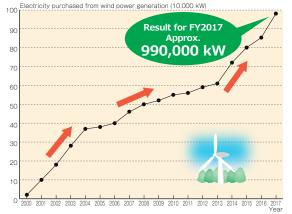
In overseas efforts, in March 2018 we participated in the Rantau Detap Geothermal Power Project in Indonesia as our first overseas geothermal power project. The commercial operation of the geothermal power plant (98,400 kW) of this project is scheduled to start in the second half of 2020. Taking advantage of knowledge and experience in geothermal power technology developed in Japan, we believe we can actively contribute to the stable operation of the power plants.

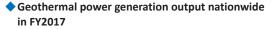
\* Value is calculated by using the model case for ordinary households' electricity consumption of 260 kWh/month.

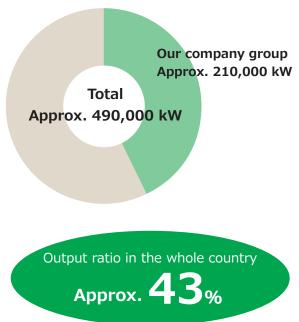
#### Biomass power generation

We use woody biomass fuels such as wood chips, which are a source of renewable energy, at coal-fired plants to reduce  $CO_2$  emissions.

Our coal-fired power plants utilize local unused materials as woody biomass fuels, starting operation in 2012 at Noshiro Thermal Power Plant in Akita Prefecture, and in 2015 at Haramachi Thermal Power Plant in Fukushima Prefecture. Changes in purchase results from wind power generation







#### Efforts toward a demonstration test of large-scale hydrogen energy system

Hydrogen can store large amounts of electricity for a long period of time and can be transported over long distances. Moreover, it can be used for various purposes. In the future, it is hoped to establish a hydrogen supply system that is CO<sub>2</sub>-free through consistent utilization of hydrogen derived from renewable energy sources, from production to the end user.

In addition, the Power-to-gas utilizing hydrogen requires not only the grid balancing function to make the maximum use of fluctuating renewable energy, but also the optimal system operation function based on the forecasting of hydrogen supply and demand.

Under such circumstances, we have started working toward the verification test of a hydrogen energy system called the "Fukushima Hydrogen Energy Research Field" (FH2R), in collaboration with Toshiba Energy Systems and Solutions Corporation, and Iwatani Corporation, with the support of NEDO\* in the town of Namie, Fukushima Prefecture.

This system will have a 10,000 kW class hydrogen production facility with world

#### Utilization of large storage battery system

Taking advantage of government subsidies, we have installed and now operate a largescale storage battery system at the Nishi Sendai Substation in Miyagi Prefecture and the Minami Soma Substation in Fukushima Prefecture.

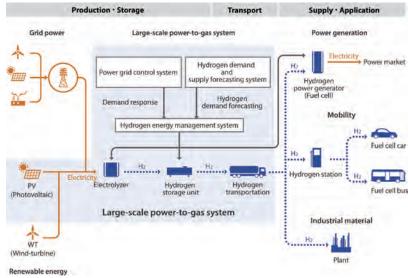
The Nishi Sendai Substation Storage Battery System's function is to adjust frequency fluctuations. Until now, thermal power generation facilities have been used as a countermeasure against frequency fluctuation caused by the expansion of renewable energy, whose output varies with weather conditions. The system combined the function to adjust frequency fluctuations with battery system's charge/ discharge function to enhance the ability to stabilize frequency.

At the Minami Soma Substation, the storage battery system will contribute to greater acceptance of renewable energy by improving the supply-demand balance. As we expand the use of renewable energy, power supply will sometimes exceed demand, in which case surplus electric power can be absorbed by the storage batteries, largest electrolysis. We plan to start operating it for verification and transporting hydrogen by July 2020.

Hydrogen produced at FH2R will be used to power fuel cell vehicles and to support factory operations.

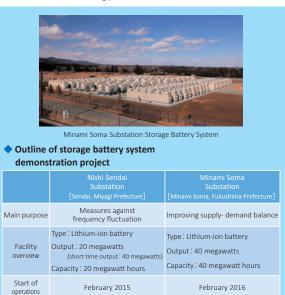
We aim to help develop a  $CO_2$ -free, hydrogendriven society through this project.

\* NEDO: New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization



then discharged into the grid when demand rises again. Eventually, it will help increase the amount of renewable energy we accept.

We will utilize two storage battery systems and make maximum efforts to expand the introduction of renewable energy.



#### Starting "Virtual Power Plant Verification Project"

As part of our efforts to utilize new information technologies such as internet of things (IoT) and artificial intelligence (AI), we are implementing a "Virtual Power Plant (VPP) Verification Project", which will last three years starting in FY2018.

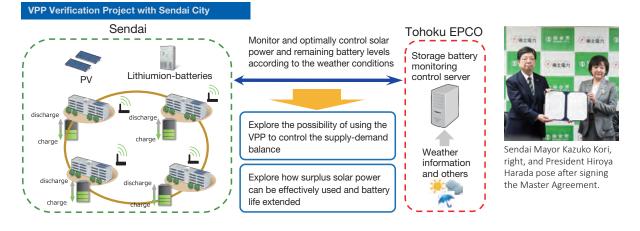
A VPP is a system that aggregates several types of power sources to function as a power station. It integrates distributed energy resources (DER) including power generating facilities, storage batteries, and electric vehicles, whose owners are local communities, companies and general households, and controls remotely those DER with new information technology.

Sendai City is one of our business partners in this Project\*. We signed the Master Agreement on the Development of Disaster-Resilient and Environment-Friendly Energy Management Driven

#### by VPP Technologies.

In accordance with this agreement, we will integrate solar power facilities and storage batteries at Sendai's 25 designated shelters as the energy resource for the VPP to enhance the region's ability to respond to disasters and reduce regional environmental burdens. We will also remotely monitor and optimize control over the facilities' operation, thereby seeing if the VPP can help control the supply-demand balance.

\* Sendai had difficulty securing power sources when the Great East Japan Earthquake occurred. Based on this experience, and with an aim to secure power sources at the time of disaster and to reduce carbon emissions, Sendai has installed photovoltaic facilities and storage batteries in designated evacuation spots, including all elementary and junior high schools in the city.



## Enhancing the Safety of Nuclear Power Stations

We believe it will be necessary to use a certain amount of nuclear power in the future -- with security and safety as a precondition -- because nuclear power does not emit  $CO_2$  at the time of generation. In addition, nuclear can generate a lot of electricity from a small amount of fuel, and procurement of uranium is stable.

#### Nuclear risk management

To further enhance the safety of nuclear power in the future, we believe it is necessary to systematically establish and strengthen highquality risk management. For this reason, our top management is committed to improving and strengthening our internal structure to strongly promote nuclear risk management.

#### Strengthening safety measures in both facilities and operations

At Onagawa Nuclear Power Station, as an earthquake countermeasure, we are strengthening resistance to prevent damage to important facilities from the design-basis earthquake ground motion Ss (up to 1,000 Gal). Additionally, construction work to raise the seawall (up to about 29 meters above sea level and about 800 meters in length) is in progress to protect the station from tsunami. We are also proceeding with installing venting equipment with filters for the containment vessel\* inside the nuclear reactor building.

At Higashidori Nuclear Power Station, we are proceeding with the installation of three freshwater reservoirs (about 3,600 m<sup>3</sup> each) to ensure sufficient cooling water in an emergency. In addition, both power plants are diligent about

maintaining and managing plant facilities, and conduct numerous inspections, including safety maintenance inspections during the current suspension of operations.

Along with these efforts, to ensure that the facility's safety measures work reliably, we maintain operational procedures for the equipment. Based on established procedures, we continuously conduct drills such as operation of the power plant's countermeasure headquarters, communications, water injection into the reactor and securing of emergency power supplies.

\* The release of radioactive material is inhibited when this equipment is used for venting that is done to prevent damage to the containment vessel from overpressure.



Construction work to raise the seawall (Onagawa Nuclear Power Station)

## Thermal power generation initiatives

Thermal power generation is an important power source from the viewpoint of stable energy supply, since it can play an important role in adjusting fluctuations in solar and wind power generation. However, it also poses environmental problems such as consumption of fossil fuels and discharge of CO<sub>2</sub>.

The Company and its group companies strive to control CO₂ emissions from thermal power plants by maintaining and improving thermal efficiency through precisely detailed daily operation management and the introduction of highly efficient combined-cycle power generation.

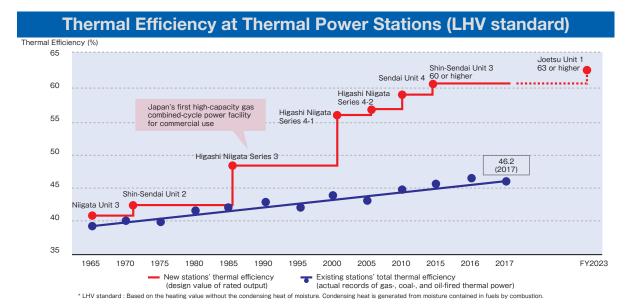
#### Reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by improving thermal efficiency

Improvement of thermal efficiency in thermal power generation contributes not only to reducing the amount of fossil fuels used but also the effective use of energy resources, as well as contributing to the suppression of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Therefore, we are actively engaged in developing highly efficient thermal power generation technology.

The Higashi Niigata Thermal Power Station No.3 series, which began operating in 1985, was Japan's first large-capacity combined-cycle power generation facility for commercial use, achieving the world's highest thermal efficiency, approximately 48%, at that time. After that, Higashi Niigata Thermal Power Plant No.4 series and Sendai Thermal Power Plant No.4 series realized even higher thermal efficiency. Later, the Shin-Sendai Thermal Power Station No.3 series, which started full-scale operation in July 2016, achieved the world's highest thermal efficiency of over 60% at that time.

In addition to securing a stable supply of electric power, we are steadily promoting construction work on Noshiro Thermal Power Plant No.3 and work on Joetsu Thermal Power Station No.1 to achieve both high economic efficiency and a reduction in environmental impact.

Noshiro Thermal Power Plant No.3 is expected to achieve higher thermal efficiency than the existing Units 1 and 2 by introducing the ultrasuper critical pressure method (USC). Joetsu Thermal Power Station No.1 has the highest thermal efficiency at 63%. The combinedcycle power generation facility will achieve high efficiency and a reduction of its environmental impact.



## Reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in transmission and distribution

In overhead power transmission lines, we implemented measures such as expanding the adoption of "low-loss finned wires" that can reduce electrical resistance by 20% or more. In recent years, due to the power transmission network being operated by a supervisory control system that minimizes power loss, we have reduced our distribution loss rate to about 5%.

In January 2016, in collaboration with other companies, we developed a new transformer for distribution that reduces power loss and is longer-lasting.

Compared to conventional "environmentally harmonized" transformers, the new transformer reduces the power loss in its operation by 15%. It also boasts a life expectancy in rated continuous operation of 60 years, up from 30 years for the previous model.



#### Trends of transmission/distribution loss ratio

## Support for efficient use of energy by customers

In addition to introducing energy-saving electrical system equipment, we support improvement of customers' energy use efficiency by proposing equipment that is environment-friendly, effective in saving energy and able to meet our customers' diverse needs.

#### HEATEDGE wins the energy conservation award

amount of electricity transmitted

Air-cooled heat pumps have excellent energysaving performance because they collect heat from the air using little energy and use it as huge thermal energy for cooling and heating. On the other hand, when the temperature is low outside, the rated heating performance cannot be maintained. Furthermore, there was an issue with the heating capacity dropping considerably during defrosting.

To address this problem, we jointly developed an air-cooled heat pump heat source device, HEATEDGE, with enhanced heating performance during defrosting.

The HEATEDGE device is equipped with the world's largest high-capacity DC inverter rotary compressor, and includes a new defrosting control, thereby enhancing the heating capability during defrosting when the outside temperature is -15°C. Even during normal operation with outside temperatures of -15C, its superior heating capability realizes both energy savings and comfortable indoor temperatures.

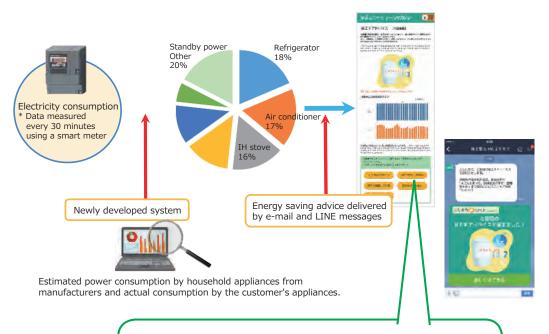
HEATEDGE received the Minister of the Environment Award for Global Warming Prevention Activity in FY2017 and the Energy Conservation Grand Prize from the Commissioner of the Natural Resources and Energy Agency.



HEATEDGE

#### Yorisou Smart Project for the development of new services

In our Yorisou Smart Project, we are verifying life assistance services using the communication robot BOCCO and energy conservation assistance services tailored to specific home appliances over the period from July 2018 to late August 2019. The energy conservation assistance service estimates electricity consumption by household appliances from electricity consumption measured every 30 minutes by a smart meter. Then, it presents the results on a graph, and advises customers on the most appropriate energy saving method, as well as how much money they will save with the method, by e-mail or LINE (one of major SNS.)



#### [Advice example]

- •Washing an appropriate amount of laundry according to the capacity of the washing machine leads to energy and water saving, compared to washing a small amount of laundry many times.
- •Washing all the clothes together will save about 6 kWh of electricity and about 17m<sup>3</sup> of water in a year-- you can save about 150 yen in electricity bills and about 4,280 yen in water bills-- about 4,430 yen in total.

## **Conservation of the Local Environment**

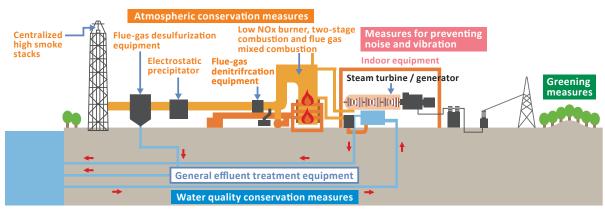
We make continual efforts to conserve the local environment, in order to minimize the environmental impact of our business activities — power generation, power transmission/distribution, and delivery to customers.

#### Compliance with environmental laws and pollution control agreements

Regarding environmental laws and regulations, we strive to ensure compliance with laws and regulations by sharing the latest information with our group companies.

In addition, at thermal power stations and other facilities, we strive to preserve the local environment by concluding pollution prevention agreements with local governments as well as observing laws and regulations concerning environmental preservation during our operations.

In pollution control agreements, we consider the characteristics of the area concerning the entire environment such as air, water quality, waste, noise, greening. Our values are stricter than the national regulatory standards and we regularly report the results of our environmental measurements to the relevant local governments.

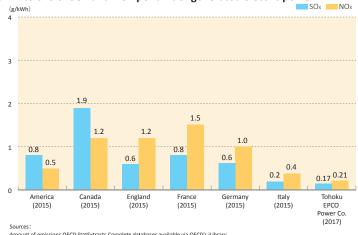


#### An example of environmental measures for thermal power plants

### Atmospheric conservation measures

Major air pollutants emitted from thermal power plants include nitrogen oxides (NOx), sulfur oxides (SOx), soot and dust. To curb these emissions, in addition to installing environmental facilities\*, we are implementing operational measures such as combustion management to prevent air pollution. Our company's NOx emissions intensity for FY2017 was 0.21 g/kWh, and SOx emissions intensity was 0.17 g/kWh. These are much lower values than in other countries.

\* Flue gas denitrification equipment, flue gas desulfurization equipment and electrostatic precipitators



#### Emissions of SOx and NOx per unit of generated electric power

Amount of emissions, OECD. StatExtracts Complete databases available via OECD's iLibrary. Amount of electricity generated, IEA ENERGY BALANCES OF OECD COUNTRIES 2016 EDITION

## Water quality conservation measures

Drainage at thermal power plants is treated to conform to wastewater standards by coagulation sedimentation, filtration and purification, and we are working to prevent water pollution.

At thermal power stations and the like, seawater is used to cool the steam used in the steam turbines, and the heat-exchanged seawater is discharged into the sea as warm wastewater.

When discharging this wastewater, we manage the temperature of the discharged water and adopt a discharge method according to the characteristics of the surrounding ocean, to reduce the environmental impact.



Survey of the ocean near a power station

## **Creation of a Recycling-Oriented Society**

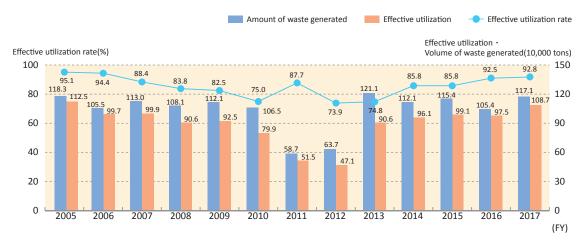
Our company group conducts proper management and treatment of waste based on all related laws and regulations. We also actively promote the 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle).

## Appropriate management and processing of waste

Our main waste is coal ash and gypsum generated from coal-fired power plants, accounting for over 90% of the total, of which about 80-90% is effectively used. We also produce various kinds of rubble and scrap metal, which we put to effective use.

We process these waste products correctly under a waste management system and electronic manifest and regularly hold Waste 3R Measures Review Committee meetings to further promote the 3Rs.

As a result, the effective utilization rate, which declined in the aftermath of the Great East Japan Earthquake, has improved to about 90%. In FY2017, the actual result exceeded the target at 92.8% against the targeted effective utilization rate of 90%.



#### Production volume and effective use of waste

## **Consideration for Biodiversity**

Our company group has been blessed with biodiversity in the installation and operation of electric power facilities. Meanwhile, we are concerned about the environmental burden caused by our business activities. For this reason, we are promoting various measures to protect biodiversity.

### Measures to conserve biodiversity

#### Measures to keep birds safe from transmission lines

We have implemented countermeasures to prevent birds from colliding with cables. For example, we investigate flight paths of migratory birds and attach tags to our transmission lines so that they can recognize and avoid the lines.

#### Coexisting with domestic rare wild animal and plant species such as Hayabusa (falcon)

We are striving to preserve the habitat of the Hayabusa falcon, a rare bird species in Japan, at Sendai Thermal Power Station and Shin-Sendai Thermal Power Station.

At the Sendai plant, we adjusted the construction process so the replacement work of No.4 does not affect the falcon's habitat. The birds have been using the facility's new chimney as a "perch tree," even after the start of No.4's operations.

At the Shin-Sendai plant, since falcon nests were confirmed in the collective chimney of No. 1 and 2, as a compensatory measure for the removal of machinery from No. 1 and 2 in accordance with replacement with the No. 3 series, since 2015 we have set up an artificial nest for falcons in the No. 3 series' new chimney.

#### Developing the waterside environment at our thermal power stations

At Sendai Thermal Power Plant, we are working to conserve biodiversity by rebuilding biotopes (habitats of living things) around the reservoir damaged by the Great East Japan Earthquake.

Valuable creatures such as musujiito tombo dragonflies and medaka, or Japanese rice fish, have been confirmed in the Maejima wild bird pond, at the center of the biotope.

#### Protecting wetlands around nuclear power plants

Many rare animals and plants such as Gomashijimi butterflies and Nikkokisuge have been confirmed in the wetlands around the Higashidori Nuclear Power Station, and to protect them, it is necessary to prevent the overgrowth of plants such as reeds. For this reason, regular grass cutting is carried out so that the habitat and growing environment of rare animals and plants can be maintained.



Tags attached to transmission lines

Hayabusa(falcon)

Musujiito tombo dragonflies



## Active Disclosure and Publication of Environment-Related Information

Since 1995, we have been actively working on disclosures of environment-related information, including pulicaiton of environmental action reports. In addition, taking into account movements such as the growing attention to ESG (Environment, Society, Governance) investment, we will make further efforts on enhancement of environmental initiatives, striving for appropriate disclosure of information to stakeholders and interactive communication.

## Answering CDP Climate Change Questionnaire

We have participate in CDP (the Carbon Disclosure Project), and responded to the 2018 Climate Change Questionnaire.



## Participation in the Environmental Reporting Platform Development Pilot Project

We have been participating in the the Environmental Reporting Platform Development Pilot Project of the Ministry of the Environment starting FY2017.

This is a demonstration project to provide a forum for companies and investors to communicate with each other. Investors participating in the project can view the ESG Dialogue Platform where we post environmental information about the company. In FY2017, we participated in the Step Up Program, in which participants practice the disclosure of ESG information and dialogue.



## Being selected for the SNAM sustainability index

We have been selected as a constituent of the SNAM Sustainability Index in FY2018. This index is used by Sompo Japan Nippon Koa Asset Management Co., Ltd. (SNAM) as an index for SNAM sustainable operation, which focuses on ESG evaluation by an investigation company and SNAM's own decision.



## Environmental Initiatives Communication "Ecolog"

There are many initiatives that contribute to environmental conservation in an electric power company's daily businesss, such as making electricity, transmitting it, and delivering it to the consumer.

"Ecolog" is a feature on our company's website with which we share our efforts in ongoing environmental initiatives, such as reduction of  $CO_2$  emissions from thermal power plants, increasing the use of renewable energy, and tree planting activities in which we work together with local residents.



[Environmental Initiatives Communication "Ecolog"] http://www.tohoku-epco. co.jp/enviro/ecolog/index.html

## **Promotion of Environmental Communication**

To build relationships of trust with local communities and customers, our company group actively discloses environment-related information and promotes "environmental communication" with them through considering and conducting environmental activities together.

## Green Curtain campaign

One energy-saving measure that takes advantage of nature's power is "green curtain", a natural shade over the outside of a building window or wall created by growing creeping vines such as goya (bitter gourd.) Since 2010, we have been working on a campaign to spread the "green curtain" to the local area.

In FY2018, we recruited people who can participate in this activity on our website and

distributed goya and morning glory seeds. In addition, we offered tips on growing the plants via e-mail magazine. Updates on growing activities are posted on our website in the "Growing Report."

We worked on growing the green curtains with children at local nursery schools. Also, our offices and business sites of group companies had the green curtains.



## Recovery of the coastal disaster prevention forest

Our company group is working on restoring a coastal disaster prevention forest devastated by the tsunami following the Great East Japan Earthquake.

This activity was started in 2013 as volunteer activity connecting the wish of the local people for restoring the rich coastal disaster forest lost by the earthquake, with the passion of our employees to support the reconstruction of Tohoku. For the activity, we mainly participated in tree-planting festivals in Iwanuma City, Miyagi Prefecture, and Minami Soma City, Fukushima Prefecture.

Starting in FY2016, in our efforts to further contribute to regional reconstruction from the environmental aspect, we implemented the treeplanting activity we call the Tohoku Electric Power Group Soma Hope Forest.



## **Performance Data**

Classification	Data item	Unit	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Electricity-generating capacity	Nuclear power	100 million kWh	0	0	0	0	0
	Thermal power	100 million kWh	610	566	572	563	565
	Hydroelectric power	100 million kWh	74	82	79	69	84
	Renewable Energy, etc.	100 million kWh	9	9	9	9	8
Purchased electric power	Purchased electricity from other companies	100 million kWh	159	181	162	169	127
Amount of power used / lost	Used within power plants	100 million kWh	29	26	27	26	27
	Used for pumped-storage power generation	100 million kWh	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.9
	Used in offices	100 million kWh	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.0	0.9
	Lost in transmission/ distribution	100 million kWh	49	46	45	42	37
Amount of electricity sales		million kWh	77,452	76,623	75,057	74,258	72,003
Fuel consumption to generate	LNG	10,000 tons	428	408	432	438	417
electricity	Natural gas	100 million Nm <sup>3</sup>	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.4
	Coal	10,000 tons	890	771	814	731	814
	Heavy oil	10,000 kl	99	89	43	54	40
	Crude oil	10,000 kl	33	31	33	30	22
	Nuclear fuel	t	0	0	0	0	0
Water usage	Industrial water	10,000 tons	1,160	1,174	1,111	1,069	1,041
Vehicle fuel	Gasoline	kl	2,669	2,397	2,541	2,442	2,376
	oil	kl	775	672	656	634	621
Other usage	Limestone	10,000 tons	12	10	12	10	12
	Ammonia	10,000 tons	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
CO <sub>2</sub> emissions*	CO <sub>2</sub> emissions	10,000 t-CO <sub>2</sub>	4,563 (4,580)	4,390 (4,374)	4,194 (4,177)	4,055 (4,034)	3,755 (3,734)
	CO₂ emission coefficient	kg-CO₂ / kWh	0.589 (0.591)	0.573 (0.571)	0.559 (0.556)	0.548 (0.545)	0.523 (0.521)
Greenhouse-gas emissions other	SF <sub>6</sub> recovery rate	%	99.7	99.3	99.4	99.6	99.8
than CO <sub>2</sub>	HFC holding capacity	t	41.5	47.7	52.6	51.7	51.2
	HFC emissions	t-CO2	1,638	563	1,349	538	947
Waste	Amount of waste generated	10,000 tons	121.1	112.1	115.4	105.4	117.1
	Final disposal amount of waste	10,000 tons	30.5	15.9	16.4	7.9	8.4
	Industrial waste recycling volume	10,000 tons	90.6	96.1	99.1	97.5	108.7
	Effective waste utilization rate	%	74.8	85.8	85.8	92.5	92.8
Other emissions	SOx emissions	10,000 tons	1.3	1.2	1.0	1.0	1.0
	SOx emission intensity	g / kWh	0.22	0.21	0.17	0.18	0.17
	NOx emissions	10,000 tons	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.2
	NOx emission intensity	g / kWh	0.27	0.27	0.25	0.24	0.21
	Industrial wastewater	10,000 tons	324	326	332	332	300
	CO <sub>2</sub> emissions from vehicles	10,000 t-CO <sub>2</sub>	0.8	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.7
Prevention of global warming	Total thermal power integrated efficiency (lower heating value (LHV))	%	44.7	45.3	45.6	46.3	46.2
	Power purchased from solar power generations	10,000kW	81.2	152.9	245.4	320.5	402.1
	Power purchased from wind power generations	10,000kW	61.4	71.9	80.1	85.6	99.2
	Trends of transmission/ distribution loss ratio	%	5.8	5.5	5.5	5.2	4.8
	Trend in popularity of heat pump water heaters within Tohoku EPCO (cumulative) Individual	Individual units	295,675	332,47	367,757	405,660	443,212

\*Values in parentheses are basic CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and CO<sub>2</sub> emission coefficients that do not reflect adjustments by the renewable energy fixed price purchase system. Values reflect retail electricity supply after FY2016 and do not include general transmission and distribution businesses such as remote island supply.

## Tohoku Electric Power Group Environmental Action Report 2018

#### **Tohoku Electric Power Co., Inc.**

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