



TOHOKU ELECTRIC POWER CO., INC.

July 30, 2011

Niigata Thermal Power Station Unit 5 Series Commence Full Operation

-Playing an important role in providing stable energy supply within our service area this summer-

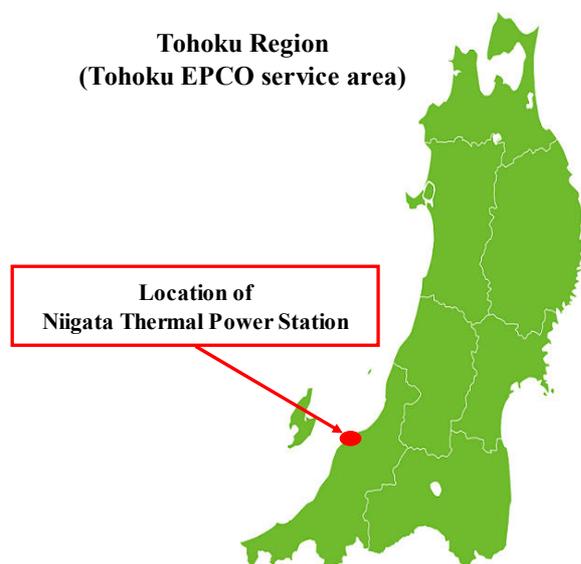
Tohoku Electric Power (hereinafter, Tohoku EPCO), today began full operation of Niigata Thermal Power Station Unit 5 series (located in Niigata-shi, Niigata-ken with an output of 109MW).

Tohoku EPCO launched a replacement project. The company decommissioned the aged Unit 3 (with an output of 250MW, natural gas and heavy oil used) which had been operated more than 40 years since the start of commercial operation. The unit was replaced with new Unit 5 series which adopt a combined-cycle power generation system in order to reduce carbon dioxide emissions and maintain the company's competitive edge by cutting power generation costs.

Meanwhile, the company is making efforts to assure power supply because our thermal power stations located in the Pacific coastal region have been shut down due to extensive damage by The Great East Japan Earthquake which occurred on March 11.

Under the circumstances, the Unit 5 series are expected to play an important role in providing stable energy supply within our service area this summer. These have achieved the highest level of thermal efficiency in Japan among plants with the same outputs, and can reduce both carbon dioxide emissions and fuel consumption by 20% compared with conventional plants which use gas.

Tohoku EPCO is going to make every effort to stabilize units in operation and secure power supply.



Summary of Niigata Thermal Power Station Unit 5 Series

1. Summary of Niigata Thermal Power Station

(1) Location: 2-200, Momoyama-cho, Higashi-ku, Niigata-shi, Niigata-ken

(2) Fuel used: Natural gas

(3) Generation system: Combined-cycle power generation system

(Gas turbine, steam turbine and generator) ×2

(4) Output: 109MW

〈Reference1: Unit in use〉

	Fuel	Output	Start of operation
Unit 4	Natural gas, Heavy oil	250MW	Aug. 1969

〈Reference2: Decommissioned Units〉

	Fuel	Output	Start of operation	Decommission
Unit 1	Natural gas, Heavy oil	125MW	Jul. 1963	Jul. 1984
Unit 2	Natural gas, Heavy oil	125MW	Oct. 1963	Aug. 1983
Unit 3	Natural gas, Heavy oil	250MW	Jan. 1966	Jul. 2009

2. History of the Unit 5 series

○ Start of construction: Aug. 2009

○ Start of test operation: Jun. 2011

○ Start of full operation: Jul. 30, 2011

〈Picture of the Unit 5 series〉

