

September 9, 2011

**The 20th Regular Inspection of Onagawa Unit 1 and the 7th Regular Inspection of Onagawa Unit 3**

Regarding the Maintenance Plan<sup>1</sup> for Units 1, 2, and 3 of the Onagawa Nuclear Power Station including the Special Maintenance Plan<sup>2</sup>, we submitted a notification for change to the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency on August 8, 2011. In the document, we notified that Units 1 and 3 of the Onagawa Nuclear Power Station would undergo the regular inspection from September 10, 2011.

We are pleased to announce that, based on the plan, the 20th regular inspection of Unit 1 and the 7th regular inspection of Unit 3 of the Onagawa Nuclear Power Station will be carried out from September 10, 2011. (The ending date of the inspections has not been fixed yet.)

Regular inspections<sup>3</sup> are conducted under the Electricity Utilities Industry Law to ensure that reactors and their attached facilities comply with technical standards set by the national government and that their integrity is secure. In addition to the above inspection, the regular operator inspection<sup>3</sup> will be implemented and the regular safety administration review<sup>4</sup> will also be carried out.

On this occasion, the regular inspection will include replacement of fuels, inspection of the control rod driving mechanism, inspection of the condenser tubes, and inspection related to pipe wastage. In connection with the impacts of the Great East Japan Earthquake and the Miyagi Prefecture offshore Earthquake on April 7, 2011 on the Onagawa Nuclear Power Station, we plan to verify the soundness of facilities and equipment based on the Special Maintenance Plan.

<sup>1</sup> The Maintenance Plan contains plans for inspections, repairs (including in-service repairs), etc. to be carried out at the next maintenance cycle by unit of nuclear power stations. Before the commencement of the regular inspection, the operators of a nuclear power station shall formulate and submit the plan to the national government as the accompanying sheet of the Safety Regulations.

<sup>2</sup> The Special Maintenance Plan is an accompanying document to the Maintenance Plan. We drew up the plan in response to the Great East Japan Earthquake and the Miyagi Prefecture offshore Earthquake on April 7, 2011, such as the method of inspection and items to be inspected, to verify the soundness of facilities and equipment.

<sup>3</sup> Under the Amended Electricity Utilities Industry Law (enacted October 1, 2003), regular inspections conventionally implemented by the national government and self-inspections conducted by electricity utilities are consolidated and positioned as regular operator inspections, and an obligation of recording and retaining inspection results is added. Furthermore, with respect to part of the regular operator inspections, observation and confirmation of records by the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency or Japan Nuclear Energy Safety Organization are conducted. This is positioned as regular inspections.

<sup>4</sup> A system where with respect to regular operator inspections, organizations, systems, and inspection methods concerning operators are reviewed by the Japan Nuclear Energy Safety Organization, and based on the results of such reviews, the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency evaluates the inspection implementation systems of electricity utilities.

**〈Reference〉 Outline and Situation of Nuclear Power Stations**

	Unit	Output	Type	Commencement	Situation*
Onagawa	No.1	524MW	Boiling Water Reactor (BWR)	Jun 1, 1984	Shut down
	No.2	825MW		Jul 28, 1995	Under regular inspection
	No.3	825MW		Jan 30, 2002	Shut down
Higashidori	No.1	1,100MW		Dec 8, 2005	Under regular inspection

\*All units of Onagawa were automatically shut down because of the Earthquake on March 11.