# SUMMARY OF AUGUST 24, 2015 MEETING OF THE NUCLEAR REFORM MONITORING COMMITTEE

**Venue:** TEPCO Headquarters 10F West Side Conference Room **Participants:** 

- Dr. Dale Klein (Chairman)
- Lady Barbara Judge (Deputy Chairman)
- Masafumi Sakurai (Member of the Committee)
- Fumio Sudo (TEPCO Chairman, Member of the Committee)
- Kazuhiro Suzuki (Secretary General)
- Naomi Hirose (TEPCO President and CEO, and Chief of the Nuclear Reform Special Task Force)
- Takafumi Anegawa (Managing Executive Officer, Secretary-General of the Nuclear Reform Special Task Force)
- Naohiro Masuda (Chief Decommissioning Officer, President of Fukushima Daiichi D&D Engineering Company (FDEC), Managing Executive Officer)
- Dr. John Crofts (Managing Executive Officer, Head of Nuclear Safety Oversight Office)
- Ms. Chisa Enomoto (Head of Social Communication (SC) Officer, Executive Officer)

## **Opening Remarks**

The Chairman opened by congratulating TEPCO on its progress in water management, particularly the cleaning and filtering of contaminated water. He also thanked Mr. Sakurai for his report on the disclosure matters relating to K Drainage (which Mr. Sakurai addressed later in the meeting). He expressed sympathy with respect to the worker fatality that recently occurred at Fukushima Daiichi, and asked an explanation on worker safety of TEPCO. He also expected to be reported on the conduction of safety drills at Kashiwazaki-Kariwa Nuclear Power Station (KK) and the review by IAEA. He said that the committee would always like to see progress, but it also would like TEPCO not to become complacent, realizing safety is first.

Lady Judge echoed the Chairman's remarks regarding water management, emphasizing its significance in the decontamination effort. In addition, she commended Mr. Sakurai for his report. She also praised the improvement of working conditions, improvements in communications, safety culture, and disclosure policy. She said that things were certainly on an uptick, but TEPCO should not be complacent.

Mr. Sakurai added his congratulations regarding water management and asked TEPCO to handle decommissioning works while sufficiently ensuring safety. He

also summarized his subcommittee's report on the disclosure failure earlier this year regarding K Drainage. He said the subcommittee found two causes for the failure: (1) failure to implement the company's disclosure policy throughout the organization, and (2) a failure to fully understand the expectations of society relating to information disclosure. He said TEPCO should have disclosed all information when it adopted "2013 Disclosure Policy". On the other hand, he believes sufficient measures are being put in place to prevent a recurrence, and suggested that the subcommittee that had been formed to review the matter be disbanded. Separately, he emphasized the importance of attempting to eliminate industrial accidents like the one at 1F and proposed his cooperaiton on prevention of them.

Mr. Sudo expressed his agreement with the admonitions of both the Chairman and Lady Judge to avoid complacence in dealing with water. In addition, he thanked Mr. Sakurai for his report on K drainage information disclosure issue. He also noted that Executive Director Murabe from the Japan Atomic Power Company (JAPC) has taken the position of senior vice president of the Fukushima Daiichi D&D Engineering Company. In addition, approximately 100 JAPC employees will be joining the D&D Company team. He also noted continued progress at KK with respect to training and government inspections. He said that the next committee meeting will be held at KK.

President Hirose thanked the committee for its favorable assessment of progress and the gradual reduction of risk. At the same time, he acknowledged there are many difficult issues to resolve. He noted the consideration regarding activation of the subdrain groundwater pumps, and emphasized the importance of operating the system properly to preserve the fishermen's trust. He also noted the new data disclosure policy, the third-party checks currently being undertaken at KK by such groups as IAEA, WANO, and JANSI, and noted that detailed field checks are being conducted to decrease the incidence of workplace accidents.

# Discussion on the current state of decommissioning and countermeasures for contaminated water at Fukushima Daiichi

In response to a question from the Chairman, Mr. Masuda (the CDO) said that preventing water leakage outside the site is the highest priority. But he said reducing the concentration of contamination in the water is also important in the event of a leak. He also said the government has studied how to handle the ultimate disposition of stored water that has been cleaned of all contaminants except tritium and there must soon be a decision on it.

In response to a follow-up question from the Chairman regarding educating the public regarding radiation, the CDO acknowledged the importance of such a

program and said the company needs to create an opportunity to teach people about it. He said that TEPCO will begin discussing with key people in the community to restart the meeting to share information as soon as practicable.

In response to a question from Lady Judge, the CDO noted that an understanding had been obtained with the fishermen regarding the discharge of water that had been diverted from the contaminated areas by use of the groundwater bypass system, and emphasized the importance of maintaining trust as the subdrain system is activated. Then, he said, after that trust is regained, it will be important to start discussing with the fishermen the handling of the remaining contaminated water.

In response to an observation by Mr. Sakurai about improvements to the work environment, President Hirose noted that the radiation levels of the area in which fatal accident occurred were extremely low but the worker put on a full face mask. It will be necessary to explain to each worker why the removal of equipment in low-radiation zones is not only an exposure-related issue but a safety issue as well.

In response to comments by Mr. Sudo about necessity to clarify contractual obligations between the operator, TEPCO, and the contractors, the CDO said that TEPCO has a responsibility to provide safe work environment and he will thoroughly request contractors to work in accordance with the rules.

#### Drainage at Fukushima Daiichi

In response to a question from Lady Judge concerning the creation of a career path for communications professionals, Ms. Enomoto said a risk communicator administrator, who serves as a supervisor, has been placed at 1F for the last four months and that the arrangement seems to be working. Mr. Anegawa added that those people who have been stationed in the risk communicator part of the SC office or the Nuclear Safety Oversight Office (NSOO) will be promoted to important management positions.

The Chairman asked how communications effectiveness is being measured and benchmarked. Ms. Enomoto said SC office measures through external channels.

In response to comments by President Hirose about press conference and TEPCO's efforts in communication, Lady Judge noted that it is important to explain in a way that is easy to understand in disclosing information and that it will be an indication in public communications that the number of news based on misunderstanding is decreased.

Mr. Sudo said he would like to see communications evaluated both qualitatively and quantitatively, from both the sender side and the receiver side, and asked the company to consider evaluation methods that can be used "without ego." The CDO said that he will try to consider evaluation methods in a quantitative way.

#### Discussion on Progress of the Nuclear Safety Reform Plan

In response to a question from the Chairman concerning interviews by IAEA OSART and JANSI, Mr. Anegawa said he has things to learn from interviews of IAEA OSART and JANSI.

The Chairman urged President Hirose and Mr. Anegawa to observe an INPO exit interview in the U.S. as JANSI moves to a more rigorous process, so that both processes can be understood and how they produce good feedback. Mr. Sudo asked whether input from INPO and IAEA would be one time or ongoing. Mr. Anegawa noted there is a systematic mechanism for following up on the feedback received from such third-party organizations, and that this leads to useful dialog, updating, and monitoring. He said TEPCO would like to see reviews performed more frequently than has been the custom, which is once every four years or so.

In response to a question from Lady Judge, Dr. Crofts observed that the recommendations of NSOO are generally well-received by TEPCO staff. In response to her question about the adequacy of resources and the reorganization of NSOO, Dr. Crofts said that one could always do with more and, in terms of new role, he is still working out and would like to have advises.

#### **Closing Proceedings**

In brief remarks, the Chairman and Lady Judge complimented TEPCO's progress. The Chairman noted worker safety and nuclear safety is very important as TEPCO's decommissioning works are actually moving into an area with higher risk. Lady Judge particularly praised the efforts on behalf of the workers. Mr. Sakurai also noted progress, but said he is disappointed that there was another worker accident. In addition, he noted that the knowledge gained through training needs to be applied to daily tasks.

### Comment from the Chief of the Nuclear Reform Special Task Force

President Hirose noted that TEPCO continues decommissioning works with safety in mind as there are still a lot of risks remaining at 1F, and that because the next meeting will be held at KK, it will be an opportunity for the Committee to see conditions there and comment on them.

### Others

Findings from the Committee will be listed up.

The next meeting of the Committee will be in November, and members of the Committee will see safety measures and emergency drills at KK. The venue of the next Committee meeting will be informed when it is fixed after internal discussions.