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From: Mark King
To: Brett Rini
Date: Thu, Sep 20, 2007 9:29 AM
Subject: Search for Japan fire news -Small Fire Extinguished Japan's Kashiwazaki-Kariwa Plant. - AP (9/20) reports

RE: ET brief item - there was a fire at the K-K plant in Japan yesterday. From the press, it sounds like a small fire, but Jim asked that Brett coordinate with a Mike Cullingford to ensure everyone has the details. Apparently, a Japanese representative is visiting here tomorrow and Jim wants everyone to be fully aware of the fire in advance. I talked to Brett this morning and he's on it.

Brett,
 Here's links to what I found (using a quick google search) - FYI:

http://www.newsvine.com/_news/2007/09/20/973229-fire-at-japan-nuke-plant-no-leak

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/world/asia-pacific/7003975.stm>

<http://www.nj.com/newsflash/international/index.ssf?/base/international-23/119026474227410.xml&storylist=international>

<http://www.miamiherald.com/news/world/AP/story/243902.html>

<http://www.oregonlive.com/newsflash/international/index.ssf?/base/international-23/119026474227410.xml&storylist=international>

<http://www.allheadlinenews.com/articles/7008578973>

all pretty much cover the same info,

and of course from the NRC daily news: International Nuclear News...

Small Fire Extinguished At Fire At Japan's Kashiwazaki-Kariwa Plant. The AP (9/20) reports, "A fire broke out Thursday at a major nuclear power plant that was damaged in a July earthquake in northwestern Japan, but no radioactive material was leaked, plant officials said. The fire was extinguished by a worker at the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa plant, according to Shogo Fukuda, a spokesman for Tokyo Electric Power Co., which operates the facility. The plant is the world's largest in terms of power output capacity." The blaze "started from a power cable of an air conditioner on the roof of a building at the plant, Fukuda said. It occurred outside the restricted area, and there was no danger of a radiation leak, he said. Firefighters later confirmed that the fire was extinguished in about half an hour.

Bloomberg News (9/20, Sato) notes, "The fire started at the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa plant at about 10:48 am local time today, Shogo Fukuda, a company spokesman, said by telephone. ... 'We found a small fire when workers were in the middle of repair work on a coolant condenser,' Fukuda said. 'At 10:51, we called the local fire department, which confirmed, at 11:26, that the fire was under control.'"

AFP (9/20) notes, "TEPCO reported after the quake that radioactive water leaked into the Sea of Japan (East Sea) and radioactive particles blew out of an exhaust pipe filter." The operator, said "the radiation was far below amounts that would be dangerous. Despite the earthquakes and nuclear sensitivities, Japan has tried to step up its reliance on nuclear power as it has virtually no natural energy resources. Nuclear power now accounts for nearly one-third of Japan's electricity, higher than in any other of the Group of Eight industrial nations except France."

The BBC News (9/20) adds that in a report "released last month," an IAEA "team found that the damage was not as extensive as previously thought. It said that the power station had operated safely

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both during and after the quake, but that further investigations were needed in case of hidden damage. The closure of the plant triggered concern about power shortages. It is not yet clear when it will reopen." The Dow Jones Newswires (9/20, Iwata) also reported on the fire.

CC: Jerry Dozier; John Thorp