

News Release

Ministry of Economy,
Trade and Industry (METI)

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Press Release Information	Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency (NISA), Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI)
Detection of iodine from the main stack of Unit 7 at Kashiwazaki-Kariwa Nuclear Power Station, Tokyo Electric Power Company, due to "the Niigataken Chuetsu-oki Earthquake in 2007". (The 3rd report)	

July 20, 2007

NISA/METI

On July 20, 2007, Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency (NISA) received the following report from Tokyo Electric Power Company on detection of iodine and other radioactive materials from the main stack of Unit 7 (ABWR, rated electric power: 1,356MWe) at Kashiwazaki-Kariwa Nuclear Power Station.

(Excerpts from the report submitted by Tokyo Electric Power Company)

Iodine and particulate radioactive materials (chromium51, cobalt60) has been detected at Unit 7 of Kashiwazaki-Kariwa Nuclear Power Station during the regular weekly measurement of the main stack on July 17. The estimated total amount of detected iodine activity was about 3×10^8 Bq and that of detected particulate radioactive materials was about 2×10^6 Bq. (As announced on July 17)

After the above event, the measurement frequency was increased from weekly to daily and it was found that the measurement conducted on July 17 and 18 has detected iodine release with the estimated total amount of about 2×10^7 Bq. (As announced on July 19)

Today, it was found that the measurement conducted on July 18 and 19 hasn't detected any release of iodine and particulate radioactive materials.

This results in the total amount of release since July 9 to be 4×10^8 Bq (rounded up from 3.12×10^8 Bq) for iodine activity and 2×10^6 Bq for particulate radioactive materials.

NISA has assessed the situation and concluded that there is no possibility of leaking from fuel assemblies as significant change of iodine concentration in the reactor coolant hasn't been observed during plant operation and measurement after the plant shutdown on

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July 18. The release of iodine is estimated to occur in a way that iodine accumulated in the main condenser was vented via the turbine gland steam ventilator to the plant main stack.

The dose by the activity released is about 2×10^{-7} mSv and the impact of this dose on individuals is calculated to be very low or 2×10^{-7} times the maximum dose (1mSv) of the general public allowed by the Japanese regulation.

No significant reading has been identified at the radiation monitors of the main stack and the monitoring posts.

(Assessment by NISA)

The release data of iodine from stack and the measurement data of reactor coolant are observed and confirmed by NISA inspectors at the site. NISA has required Tokyo Electric Power Company to take adequate measures to control the activity release to the environment. NISA will conduct rigorous investigation and oversight.

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