

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)
Release of the IAEA Mission Report (Summary) on the Consequences of "the Niigataken Chuetsu-oki Earthquake in 2007" at Kashiwazaki-Kariwa Nuclear Power Station, Tokyo Electric Power Company	

August 18, 2007

NISA/METI

On 18 August, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) released the report (summary) on its mission to the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa Nuclear Power Station

On 18 August, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) released the report (summary) on its mission to the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa Nuclear Power Station.

NISA welcomes the fact that the report has been released without delay after the mission, of which their activities were conducted very diligently. NISA expresses its gratitude and highest esteem to Mr. Philippe Jamet, Director, Division of Nuclear Installation Safety, IAEA, and the members of his mission as well as Mr. Mohamed ElBaradei, Director General, and the secretariat of the IAEA.

The outline of the report is shown on the attachment. As for the unfounded rumors pertaining to the consequences of the earthquake of the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa Nuclear Power Station, which has been a source of great concern for the local communities, the IAEA estimates that, "the eventual individual exposure caused by the release of radioactive materials is very low when compared to the regulatory limit". The IAEA shares the same opinion as NISA.

While immediately forwarding the IAEA mission report to the Nuclear Safety Commission, NISA is carefully studying the report in order to make good use of the report's insight in our future actions, such as the discussion of the "Subcommittee for

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Investigation and Response to the Nuclear Facilities affected by Chuetsu-oki Earthquake”.

The released report is the main body of the complete report which will later be released along with reference literature.

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(Attachment)

Outline of IAEA Mission Report

Below is the outline of the IAEA mission report.

Note that the attitude of the Japanese Counterpart was open and cooperative during the entire mission, the report points out the main contents as below.

1. The trip of all the reactors which were at full power or increasing power was performed without problem and the installation behaved in a satisfactory manner during and after the earthquake. The three fundamental safety functions (reactivity control, removal of residual heat and confinement) were insured.
2. Although an extremely small amount of radioactive material was released, the resulting individual dose was estimated well below the authorized limits.
3. Although the safety related structures, systems and components of the plant suffered from the large earthquake, they seem to be in a much better general condition than expected. This is probably due to the conservatism taken into account at different stages of the design process.
4. In the re-evaluation complying with the September 2006 guidelines issued by NSC, the investigations are also to address the issue of the potential existence of active faults under the site.
5. The possibility should be considered that the systems and components remain functionally available under normal operating conditions but sustain hidden damage.