Regarding Establishment of the Hearings on Inspection for Impact of Seawater Inflow into the Nuclear Facilities in Unit 5 at Hamaoka Nuclear Power Station, Chubu Electric Power Co., Inc.

The Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency (NISA) has established the “Hearings on Inspection for Impact of Seawater Inflow into the Nuclear Facilities in Unit 5 at Hamaoka Nuclear Power Station, Chubu Electric Power Co., Inc. (hereinafter referred to as “Hamaoka Unit 5”) to hear opinions from experts in evaluating the inspection for the impact of the seawater inflow into the nuclear facilities. The 1st meeting of the public hearings will be held on July 25, 2012.

1. Course of events
(1) Chubu Electric Power Co., Inc. (CEPCO) received a direction dated May 6, 2011 from Minister of the Economy, Trade, and Industry to shut down the reactor of “Hamaoka Unit 5”. An event that seawater flowed into the nuclear reactor facilities occurred during the work after shutting down the reactor. As a result of cause investigation, it was confirmed that a large amount of seawater flowed into the condenser because of damage of small tubes, and that the seawater was spreading in the wide range of the nuclear reactor facilities.

(2) Subsequently, inspection for each facility was conducted, and it was confirmed that there were 40 holes in the condenser storage tank, and some holes on the bottom penetrated through the lining. For this reason, CEPCO submitted NISA a report on this event pursuant to Nuclear Regulation Act. NISA directed CEPCO to investigate the impact on the entire nuclear reactor facilities by seawater inflow and also directed CEPCO to report its results, and NISA received an interim report from CEPCO. Further, CEPCO has continued conducting the inspection for the impact on the entire reactor facilities by seawater inflow.

(3) Regarding the above, this is an unprecedented event in the world in which a large amount of seawater flowed into the main body of the nuclear reactor. Since the impact of seawater on the entire nuclear facilities should be examined, NISA decided to establish the “Hearings on Inspection for Impact of Seawater Inflow into the nuclear facilities in Unit 5 at Hamaoka
Nuclear Power Station, Chubu Electric Power Co., Inc.” for the purpose of hearing opinions from experts on the issues to be examined on this event, the evaluation of the contents of the report submitted from CEPCO, and etc.

2. Schedule
(1) The detailed schedule of the Hearings will be announced on the NISA web-site, and NISA is making an effort to enhance transparency through these hearings in a public place.
(2) The 1st meeting of the Hearings will be held on July 25, 2012.

Appendix: “Hearings on Inspection for Impact of Seawater Inflow into the Nuclear Facilities in Unit 5 at Hamaoka Nuclear Power Station, Chubu Electric Power Co., Inc.” Members’ List

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