

14 November, 2013
Nuclear Regulation Authority, Japan

NRA's Actions toward TEPCO's Fuel Removal from Unit 4 Reactor Building, Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station

In November 2012, the Nuclear Regulation Authority (NRA) provided TEPCO with the following requirements for removal of fuels from the spent fuel storage pools in reactor buildings to the Common Spent Fuel Pool, under the Act on Regulation of Nuclear Source Material, Nuclear Fuel Material and Nuclear Reactors:

- To maintain the subcritical condition of the fuels;
- To take measures to prevent the fuels from falling down and to mitigate radiation effects to the environment in case of falling down; and
- To store the removed fuels in appropriate conditions including cooling them.

TEPCO made an application for the NRA's approval on an Implementation Plan on fuel removal from the Unit 4 spent fuel storage pool, that was developed on the basis of the above-described requirements. It was approved by the NRA on 14 August 2013. A revision of the Implementation Plan containing modified methods of fuel-integrity assessment and others was approved by the NRA on 30 October 2013.

The NRA conducted a pre-service inspection on the specifications of facilities and equipment for fuel removal, that shall be met to those approved. The NRA is going to conduct a safety inspection on operation trainings of the workers, an administration system of safety, emergency response measures and others for fuel removal. The NRA including NRA's Local Office in Fukushima is going to watch closely TEPCO's activities of fuel removal.



Checking out by NRA's inspectors regarding operation training of fuel removal for the workers in Unit 4 Reactor Building

The following URL of TEPCO leads to details of fuels removal plan:

<http://photo.tepco.co.jp/en/date/2013/201310-e/131030-02e.html>