

The Status of Units 1 Through 3 Venting

Unit 1

- Vent lines were being explored and diagrammed starting on the evening of the 11th. At 0:06 on the 12th, the plant manager ordered preparations made for venting.
- Work began on-site, but the inhospitable environment, including lack of communication method and high air dose, meant that vent line completion required a great deal of time. For example, one worker who went to open a certain valve had to immediately turn back due to the risk of exceeding the dose limit of 100mSv on the way.
- At around 9:15 on the 12th, the motor-operated valve (MO valve) was opened, and around 14:00, a temporary compressor was installed and activated to open the air-operated valve (AO valve). Drywell pressure drop was seen at around 14:30 on the 12th.

Unit 2

- At 17:30 on the 12th, the plant manager ordered preparations made for venting. A manual for valve operation needed for venting was created based on the procedure used for Unit 1, and at around 11:00 on the 13th, the vent line was completed, with the exception of a rupture disc.
- However, the Unit 3 explosion at around 11:00 on the 14th led to circuit damage, closing one of the vent valves (large AO valve). Following the lifting of withdrawal orders after the explosion, attempts were made starting at around 16:00 to open this large AO valve, but were not successful due to insufficient amount of air. At around 18:35, work was carried out to open the large AO valve and another vent valve (small AO valve [S/C side]), but there was not enough air pressure to open the large AO valve, and only a slight opening could be achieved for the small AO valve (S/C side) at around 21:00.
- Pressure inside the PCV continued to be uneven at around 22:50, with the D/W pressure exceeding design pressure (427kPa) even as S/C stabilized at between 300-400kPa. A different AO valve (small AO valve [D/W side]) was switched open, but a few minutes later, the valve was

confirmed to still be closed. While these operations continued, a large impact noise was recorded at around 6:00-6:10 on the 15th, and at the same time, S/C pressure registered 0MPa abs.

Unit 3

- As with Unit 2, a manual was created based on the procedure used for Unit 1, following the plant manager's orders at 17:30 on the 12th to begin venting preparations.
- The vent line was provisionally completed at 8:41 on the 13th, and D/W pressure dropped at around 9:20 of the same day.
- Around 11:00 of the same day, one of the vent valves (large AO valve) closed as a result of an inability to maintain air pressure, and repeated work was carried out to reopen the valve by replacing air tanks and pumping in compressed air with a compressor.
- Another valve (small AO valve) was switched open at around 5:00 on the 14th, but as with the large AO valve, air pressure could not be maintained and repeated work was carried out to reopen the valve.