

Earthquake Report - JAIF

We have been reporting a status of Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power station and related news by summarizing news aired by NHK which is the Japanese national broadcasting corporation.

The news website gives credible information, and some movies and English scripts can be seen at <http://www3.nhk.or.jp/daily/english/society.html>.

Given this situation, we have been making this report by simply placing these news scripts here as they are in the website for the record in case that it will be deleted from the website later.

No. 457: July 3

NHK news regarding Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power station and related news yesterday and today.

(Fukushima NPP Site)

(Other news)

● **Conditions for nuclear regulatory body official**

● **High cesium levels in Fukushima freshwater fish**

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●Conditions for nuclear regulatory body official

The Japanese government has decided that anyone with close ties to the nuclear industry will be excluded from a new regulatory body to be set up in September.

The new commission will consist of a chairperson and 4 experts. The experts will specialize in nuclear reactors or earthquakes.

The government's guidelines forbid anyone taking a commission post if they have worked for utilities, reactor makers or other nuclear-related businesses in the past 3 years.

They also rule out those who have received more than 6,000 dollars per year from nuclear businesses.

If the committee members are university lecturers, they will have to disclose any ties between their former students and the nuclear industry.

The government announced the new commission as a replacement for the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency. The current regulatory body functions as part of the industry ministry, which also promotes nuclear energy development. The conflict of interest attracted severe public criticism in the wake of the Fukushima nuclear accident.

Jul. 2, 2012 - Updated 23:58 UTC (08:58 JST)

●High cesium levels in Fukushima freshwater fish

Japan's Environment Ministry says it detected higher levels of radioactive cesium in freshwater fish than marine fish in disaster-hit Fukushima Prefecture.

The ministry on Monday released the results of its study conducted from December last year to February this year. It took freshwater samples in rivers and lakes, as well as at 8 locations in the open sea.

The highest amount of cesium, 2,600 Becquerels per kilogram, was found in a goby freshwater fish taken from a river that flows from Iitate Village to Minamisoma City, north of the crippled plant.

Some water bugs, which freshwater fish eat, also showed high levels of 330 to 670 Becquerels per kilogram.

A type of flounder and bass caught off Iwaki City, south of the plant, registered 260 Becquerels per kilogram-- the highest level for marine fish.

A ministry official spoke about the differences in cesium levels in freshwater and marine fish. The official said marine fish are likely to get rid of cesium from their bodies more quickly as they have the ability to excrete salt.

The ministry will closely monitor freshwater fish as radioactive cesium may remain in their bodies for a longer period.

Jul. 2, 2012 - Updated 20:51 UTC (05:51 JST)

End