Towards the Enhancement of Nuclear Safety

Shunichi Tanaka
Chairman
Nuclear Regulation Authority (NRA)
Independence

- Separate the functions for nuclear regulation and nuclear promotion.
  Establish the Nuclear Regulation Authority (NRA) as an independent regulatory body.

Integration

- Integrate nuclear regulation functions regarding safety, security, safeguards, radiation monitoring and radioisotopes regulation into the NRA.
Independent and Integrated

AEC : Atomic Energy Commission
METI : Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry
MEXT : Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology
MOE : Ministry of the Environment
NISA : Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency (abolished)
NSC : Nuclear Safety Commission (abolished)
The Secretariat of the NRA
(About 500 staffs)
Transparency

- NRA meetings are open to the public (streamed live on the Internet).
- Meeting records with licensees are open to the public.
- Criteria for appointing outside experts
- Three press conferences are held each week.
TEPCO Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station

- Specification as Disaster-experienced Nuclear Power Plant (Nov. 7)
  Ensuring safety of the decommissioning of reactors

- Continuing investigation of the accident cause
  Full cooperation for IAEA report

- Experts groups on radiation emergency administration
  To recommend measures to control radiation pollution and reduce long-term anxiety to human health.
New Safety Standards for Nuclear Power Plants

- New regulation on severe accidents
  Legally-requested measures to prevent and to mitigate severe accidents.

- Develop new regulatory standards and apply to existing nuclear facilities (backfitting).

- 40-years operational limit for NPPs
  Legally define the limit to 40 years.
  NRA can permit a less-than-20-years extension.

To be established by July next year
New Safety Standards for Nuclear Power Plants

To be established by July next year

- Safety measures against external event risks, including earthquakes, tsunamis, tornados, fires and terrorist attacks

→ Establishing new standards for Earthquake and Tsunami in particular
Emergency preparedness and response in off-site areas

• Nuclear emergency preparedness guidelines were developed (Oct. 31). Expanded evacuation preparing zone; area about within 5km radius designated as PAZ and area about within 30km radius as UPZ.

• Study on EAL and underway by experts’ group.

→ Reflecting the Nuclear emergency preparedness guidelines in the emergency preparedness plans in supporting with local governments (by March 2013)
Field Surveys of Fracture Zones

- Started additional field surveys at three NPP sites (Oi, Tsuruga and Higashidori)

- NRA organized experts’ team to conduct field surveys.
International collaborations in the field of Nuclear Safety Regulation

- International collaborations with IAEA, OECD/NEA, and other countries.
- Sharing of cutting-edge knowledge in the field of nuclear safety regulation
- Nuclear security
- Nuclear safeguards
- Development of human resources
We just began to move forward steadily.