

Policy Statement on Safety-Related Public Relations
in Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency in FY2009

Nuclear Safety Public Relation Division

1. NISA's policy on public relations

The public relations implemented by Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency (hereinafter referred to as "NISA") have the following objectives: to fulfill the accountability to the public concerning the regulatory activities as the responsibility of regulatory agency on nuclear safety; to receive inputs from stakeholders (persons and organizations directly or indirectly affected by the installation of nuclear facilities) on regulatory activities, and to appropriately reflect their evaluations in the regulatory administration on nuclear safety. To fulfill these objectives, NISA is committed to providing accurate information with emphasis on the public, including the local communities that host the nuclear facilities, perspectives and is committed to actively interacting with a wide variety of stakeholders. NISA intends to use the inputs and insights gained through these public relations activities for continuous improvement in our regulatory activities.

2. Public Relations Activities in FY 2009 (Basic Policy)

Ten years have passed since the JCO criticality accident occurred in Tokai Village. In the wake of this accident, systems such as nuclear safety inspection and deployment of residential nuclear safety inspectors have been established. Further, in recognition of the issues of information sharing during the Chuetsu-Oki Earthquake, challenges on notifying information from licensees to national and local governments and on providing information to the general public have been addressed.

In implementing the above-stated policy, we are committed to making further efforts to disseminating information to the public and gain understanding from the public on approaches to nuclear emergency preparedness and the mission that the nuclear safety administration should fulfill. As part of these efforts, we will make more frequent outreach efforts to the local communities that host nuclear facilities and enhance the communication quality.

Discussions on the improvements in communication among stakeholders will be conducted in the Basic Policy Group of Nuclear and Industrial Safety Subcommittee with the purpose of obtaining useful feedback for our future public relations activities.

<Details of Public Relation Activities>

*Hosting of "Nuclear Safety Inspectors office Day" to address integrated public relations activities in the local communities that host nuclear facilities (New Project)

-As part of the interactions through direct communication in the local communities that host nuclear facilities, the following events have been held to provide information directly to the communities concerned, to exchange views and to explain how NISA's administrative activities are implemented:

Nuclear Safety Awareness Month (local community visit); NISA Day (symposium); and Communication Meeting (opinion exchange).

-Since the JCO criticality accident ten years ago, the nuclear safety inspection system was employed and resident safety inspectors have been deployed in each nuclear facility. However, residents gave inputs that "there have been only limited opportunities to know about NISA" and it is necessary to inform the residents much of NISA activities." To cope with these requests, NISA will hold a "Nuclear Safety Inspectors Office Day" in each locale that hosts nuclear facilities to integrally exchange views on communication activities. The nuclear safety inspector offices (21 sites with more than 100 resident inspectors nationwide) will play a major role in this event.

Dates and programs of "Nuclear Safety Inspector office Day"

-Dates are scheduled between May and October to keep pace with the schedule of Nuclear Safety Awareness Month.

-Locations are at Offsite Centers

-Programs are planned by each office members. The candidate programs are: seminars; communication meetings; panel presentation and film showing. The details are announced on the website.

Supports and cooperation by local governments are requested in implementing the events. We are committed to serving as a point of contact to the local communities and to disclosing information to the local communities during normal times and an emergency.

*Information dissemination through "press release" and "announcement from NISA" (continued project)

-Information such as NISA's press release are disseminated through nuclear safety inspector offices nationwide to the media in the local communities that host nuclear facilities. NISA will continue efforts to disclose information on regulatory activities in

future too. Last year, there were more than 1200 press releases.

*Issue of public relations bulletin (continued project)

-As "core media" of NISA, the bulletin "NISA Communication" is issued several times a year for distribution mainly to the local communities that host nuclear facilities (local governments and residents). The bulletin summarizes the current status of regulatory activities in a concise manner. Sixteen issues of "NISA Communication" were issued to date. We will continue efforts so that the bulletin could be used as an archive to show the history of NISA's administration and achievements.

-Last year, "NISA Communication" was issued four times and distributed to all the households at locales that host nuclear facilities (approx. 600,000 copies). This year, the main focus of NISA Communication will be: recently-introduced new inspection system for which full-scale implementation is slated; and seismic retrofitting to which attention has been increased due to the experience of the Chuetsu-Oki Earthquake.

*Information dissemination and answer to questions through website (continued project)

-To secure transparency and openness, following information is uploaded as early as possible:

regulatory actions implemented or planned by NISA; information on incidents and accidents reported by operators; responses as the regulators; and records of deliberations carried out by subcommittees such as Nuclear and Industrial Safety Subcommittee.

-Deliberations are held publicly and their minutes, materials and reports are disclosed on our website. Besides, answers to the questions e-mailed by citizens are daily uploaded on the website in addition to the frequently asked questions (FAQs) about safety of nuclear power stations (currently there are approx. 130 FAQs). Furthermore, "NISA e-Mail Magazine" is issued on the 1st and the 3rd Fridays, every month.

*Enhancement of emergency information dissemination (continued project)

-"Mobile NISA," in which emergency information via e-mail to pre-registered people in the event of a large-scale earthquake or an accident has been established. We are making continued efforts to ensure their speedy disclosure of information at the initial stage of the event occurrence. At the same time, we are considering various ways to distribute information at the later stage of the event taking advantage of media. We are

committed to continually striving for prompt information dissemination so that we can release the first report within one hour upon occurrence of a serious event (such as a large-scale earthquake).

*Issue of brochures (2 or 3 subjects per year) (continued project)

-On the occasion of NISA's planning or implementation of important nuclear regulatory initiatives, brochures are specifically prepared and distributed to disseminate their objectives and programs.

-Last year, a brochure about the new inspection system was prepared and distributed to the agencies and organizations concerned. This year, NISA is planning to issue some brochures that cope with the approaches to nuclear emergency preparedness and the safety regulations on decommissioning and interim storage in anticipation of future intensification of activities.

-Back issues (16 issues) can be downloaded from our website.

*Broadcasting programs featuring activities of nuclear safety inspector office (new project)

-Nuclear safety inspectors will inform periodically the local communities of their activities on a timely manner via local radio stations in the areas that host nuclear facilities. (Several subjects are planned per year).

-This year, activities of the residential nuclear safety inspectors at nuclear facilities and how the safety is ensured are broadcasted.

*Information dissemination on nuclear safety regulation via CATV (improvement)

-The issues for which visual information is important among the NISA's regulatory activities and initiatives are presented through CATVs deployed in the areas that host nuclear facilities. Last year, visual programs introducing the new inspection system, its mechanism and the details of on-site inspection were broadcasted in the areas that host nuclear facilities. We will continue this project this year in consideration of improvements in information dissemination skills during emergency response (2 or 3 subjects per year).

*Public meeting regarding individual issues (continued project)

-Public meetings have been held to discuss issues of nuclear regulatory activities in the local communities that host nuclear facilities. As part of this project, issues of "MOX fuel safety" and "seismic retrofitting" were discussed in the public meetings.

-Eleven public meetings were held concerning the impacts of the Chuetsu-Oki Earthquake on Kashiwazaki Kariwa Nuclear Power Station to inform the residents of investigation and review results. Hookup images of these meetings are distributed via our website. The meeting dedicated to this issue will be held appropriately in future too.

-Further, we will consider hosting of public meetings to discuss the seismic retrofitting and NOX fuel issues as required.

*Information notification to international organizations (continued project)

-Information is notified promptly to international organizations (OECD, IAEA etc.) concerning incidents/accidents and in the event of a large-scale disaster that affects nuclear facilities.

To promote smooth interactions with the public, NISA will train their staff to enhance their dissemination skills so that they are able to provide easily understandable information to the public.