# Efforts for Healthcare of Workers at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant

#### 27 December 2016

Fukushima Daiichi Decontamination and Decommissioning Engineering Company

Tokyo Electric Power Company Holdings, Inc.

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#### 1. Introduction

The notification from Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (hereinafter referred to as the MHLW), "Guidelines on Industrial Safety and Health Management at the TEPCO Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant" (Labour Standards Bureau Notification No. 0826-1, 26 August 2015, [hereinafter referred to as the guidelines]), referring to healthcare measures for workers at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant, mandated that the Plant Director and principal employer provide required instructions and support not only for their own workers but also for relevant subcontractors so that they can appropriately conduct healthcare measures. Following the release of the guidelines, we again received a demand from the Fukushima Labour Bureau to ensure the state of implementation specified items by the guidelines, to review the implementation system and determine if any improvement should be made, and to provide required instructions and support for principal employers and relevant subcontractors.

To meet the requirement specified by the guidelines, we sought advice on specific objectives (described later) from the expert organization, the University of Occupational and Environmental Health, Japan, to meet the required issues and took action to achieve these objectives accordingly.

First, we conducted a survey of the current status of each principal employer undertaking work at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant concerning their involvement (e.g. extent of understanding) in healthcare of their relevant subcontractors. The survey showed that not all principal employers currently knew their relevant subcontractors' healthcare situation.

Then, we proceeded to discuss a system to understand the management status of each principal employer, at the same time as requesting that they establish a system to achieve the objectives by clearly stating them. Additionally, when surveying the current status of each principal employer and then checking the progress in establishing the requested system, we conducted an individual interview with each principal employer to establish effective measures suitable to their situation, as well as to assess the situation and problems of each individual company.

Furthermore, during this process of discussion, we received support from the University of Occupational and Environmental Health as needed, such as lectures for each principal employer and instructions for responses to each problem presented at the interviews.

As the systems were established and ready for each principal employer by August 2016, we requested that they start operating the system. We now have the first reports from each principal employer on management status of medical examinations conducted during July–September 2016.

In response to the guidelines, we report the efforts for healthcare of workers and a summary of the results reported by the principal employers on management status below.

#### 2. Efforts for Healthcare

#### (1) Healthcare Measures Specified by the Guidelines

The guidelines specified the following as healthcare measures for workers at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant.

- a. Implementation of the medical examination
- The Plant Director and principal employers should regularly provide the medical examination pursuant to the Industrial Safety and Health Act and other regulations, and the medical examination pursuant to the Ionizing Radiation Ordinance, to their workers.
- As a result of hearing opinions from a medical doctor about the results of the medical
  examination concerned, they should take appropriate measures for workers who were
  requiring consideration of their present employment, taking opinions from the medical
  doctor into account.
- b. Daily healthcare
- The Plant Director and principal employers should check each worker's condition before starting work daily, such as for symptoms of fever and diarrhea. In the case of poor health condition, they should urge the worker to consult a doctor.
- For workers who have engaged in work at the power plant for a long period (presumed approximately three months or more), in addition to workers recognized to be striving to maintain their health based on the results of the medical examination, they should provide health guidance by a medical doctor or public health nurse, taking the opportunity at the time of a medical examination.
- All possible measures for preservation of health should be taken for workers who were shown to have underlying diseases such as cardiac disease and cerebrovascular disease, from the results of past medical examinations and the medical history based on health survey results, existence of subjective or objective symptoms etc. by providing thorough daily checks of conditions as well as implementing health guidance.
- c. Instructions and support to relevant subcontractors
- The Plant Director and principal employers should provide required instructions and support to relevant subcontractors so that they can appropriately conduct the matters shown in a and b.

Following the guidelines, we received a notice from the Fukushima Labour Bureau ["Reinforcing Measure to Prevent Occupational Injury and Diseases in Decommissioning Work at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant, etc (re-request)." Fukushima Labour Standards Bureau Notification 0915 No.1, 15 September 2015] requesting us from the same perspective to review the implementation status of above mentioned b and c of the guidelines in our company, principal employers and relevant subcontractors. They also requested that we review the implemented system to determine if any improvement should be made, and to provide required instruction and support for principal employers and relevant subcontractors.

Because we confirmed from the interview with some principal employers that some companies had not sufficiently understood the actual status of healthcare of their relevant subcontractors, we reported in response to the request from the Fukushima Labour Bureau

that we were going to review the implementation status of the matters specified in the guidelines and provide required instructions and support to our principal employers with support from the University of Occupational and Environmental Health in future. (14 Oct 2015)

#### (2) Specific Objectives

To meet the requirements specified in the guidelines, we received the following advice from the experts at the University of Occupational and Environmental Health on specific objectives to achieve.

#### < The Objectives to Achieve in Response to the Guidelines >

To establish the status that TEPCO and their principal employers had implemented concerning the following on healthcare of workers of the relevant subcontractors:

- 1) To ensure that all workers receive required medical examination regularly.
- 2) To ensure the workers requiring medical treatment or thorough medical examination, as a result of medical examination, are visiting medical institutions.
- 3) To ensure the workers requiring medical treatment, after visiting a medical institution, continue to take required medical treatment at least while they are working at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant.
- 4) To provide appropriate support to workers including consideration for their work based on the result of regular medical examination.
- 5) To continuously ensure and review the status of implemented measures on their work.

We set the objectives to assess the status for the above mentioned 1)–5) d and discuss actions to achieve these.

#### (3) Survey of Current Status

We conducted a survey of the principal employers participating in the Safety Promotion Committee (hereinafter referred to as the "SPC") of the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant about the extent of their understanding of healthcare status of their relevant subcontractors at present and their involvement (e.g. instructions and support). The survey was conducted by answering a survey slip and attending an interview (with each individual company of principal employers) for further inquiry and confirmation of their answers in the survey slip. A summary of the survey method and results is shown below.

#### < Survey Method >

Subjects : The principal employers, 45 offices of 42 companies
 Survey period and method : From 25 February to 8 April; answer to survey slip and

interview

#### < Summary of Survey Results >

Among the above subjects, 41 offices (38 companies) of the principal employers had relevant subcontractors. We counted answers from 41 offices excluding those without a relevant subcontractor.

- The survey of the principal employers concerning their checking of medical examination results for workers of their relevant subcontractors showed that all principal employers were checking the results (general medical examination and ionizing radiation medical examination) using the workers' examination cards of their relevant subcontractors.
- The survey of the principal employers concerning their checking whether workers of relevant subcontractors diagnosed with "thorough examination required" and "medical treatment required" received the examination and treatment as instructed by their medical doctors showed that 29 offices (approx. 70%) were checking those as the principal employers, but were not checking all workers. (25 offices (approx. 60%) answered with "checking with all workers.") [There were 25 offices (approx. 60%) that answered "checking all workers."]

[See Annex-1]

In reference to the specific objectives shown in 1)–5) of (2), at the time of the survey, this result indicates that all principal employers had implemented 1), about 60% of the entire principal employers had implemented to 2), and less had implemented to more than 3).

[In reference to the specific objectives 1)–5)] (at the time of the survey)

It is necessary to establish that the following five are certainly implemented Principal employers on the responsibility of TEPCO and principal employers for the workers of checking relevant subcontractors. To ensure that all workers receive required medical 100% examinations regularly. 2) To ensure the workers requiring medical treatment or thorough examination, as a result of medical examination, are Approx. 60% visiting medical institutions. 3) To ensure the workers requiring medical treatment, after visiting medical institutions, continue to take required medical treatment at least while they are working at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant. 4) To give appropriate support to workers, including consideration for their work based on the result of regular medical examinations. 5) To continuously check and review the implementation of measures on their work.

#### (4) Establishment of the Structure Toward Achieving the Specific Goal

After determining the actual status by the survey, we proceeded with the principal employers to establish a structure toward the specific goal described in (2).

Specifically, this was to establish a system to confirm that the workers of relevant subcontractors diagnosed with "thorough examination required," "treatment required," and "continuous treatment required" as a result of general medical examination and ionizing radiation medical examination were "2) visiting medical institutions" and "followed up by 3) to 5)."

We stated the objectives, and requested that each principal employer establish a system to achieve them and successively start operating the system, at the SPC on 28 April 2016. Because the situation such as the number of relevant subcontractors, actual situation of operation at the power plant, and the method of healthcare management differed for each principal employer, we did not designate one particular method but requested they establish a practical system that suited each company's situation. At the same time, we started reviewing a system to assess the status of management at the principal employers.

After a period for each principal employer to create their own system, we interviewed each principal employer individually during June-mid July to assess the status of establishing, operating, or reviewing of the system at each company.

As a result, we confirmed that either the system had been established and was operating or was being established and would be operating as soon as mid-July. Consequently, we requested that each principal employer submit a quarterly report on their management status to us, as well as asking them to start operating the system they had established at the SPC, on 21 July. Furthermore, we confirmed that those in the process of establishing a system at the time of interview had completed their system by the end of August.

We requested they submit the contents of the management report in the standard form shown in Annex-2 as follows: the number of workers who underwent medical examination at the principal employers and relevant subcontractors; the number of workers diagnosed with "thorough examination required," "treatment required," and "continuous treatment required" among them; and the number of workers with the status of "A (Completed visit to medical institution and consideration of the present measures for employment by the employer)," "B (Currently in process)," or "C (Not visited medical institution after the instruction)" as support provided to them. We also requested that they report in different quarters on the status of support provided so that the cases of "thorough examination required" are reported in the current quarter, and the cases of "medical treatment required" and "continuous medical treatment required" are reported after the second quarter (six months later).

The form was used to assess the management status for each principal employer and, although we requested them to use the form in Annex-2 as the standard, they could use a substitute form if it meets the objectives of the standard form. [See Annex-2]

As the initial report, we requested they submit the report on the status of those who were diagnosed with "thorough examination required" and the status of support provided to them in the second quarter (July–September) by the end of November.

Although the report is requested quarterly because the system is newly implemented, the frequency will be reviewed in future depending on its establishment status.

We received much support from the University of Occupational and Environmental Health for the series of actions from achieving the abovementioned system to beginning its operation. Specifically, the support included giving lectures on the purpose of the issues specified by the guidelines, importance of healthcare and management method to achieve the objectives (January, April, July, and October), and instructions concerning the problems presented by each company.

Furthermore, the MHLW opened the "Health Support Consultation Desk for Decommissioning Workers" on 8 July 2016 to provide once-weekly health consultation to workers and advice to the operators on healthcare support for their workers at places with easy access for the workers at the site of the power plant and J-Village. We promoted this by providing information at places (e.g. by distributing posters and flyers, and uploading information to the website for workers) that can be used for the systems we were implementing.

#### 3. Result of Management Status Report

We received the reports on the healthcare status of the medical examinations for July–September, which was the first quarter following the efforts at each principal employer being initiated, by the deadline at the end of November and summarized the results. We summarized these reports from the principal employers participating in the SPC as of April 2016, when we started discussing this action. The results are shown below.

- < Contents of the Reports Requested from Each Principal Employer >
  Number of workers below by principal employer and relevant subcontractor
  - Number of workers who took the medical examination during July–September.
  - Among them, number of workers diagnosed with "thorough examination required," "treatment required," or "continuous treatment required."
  - Status of support provided to those who were diagnosed with "thorough examination required." (Classified into A: Completed visit to medical institution and consideration of the present measures for employment by the employer, B: Currently in process, C: Not visited medical institution after the instruction).

#### < Subjects of Result Summary >

- Subjects: Principal employers
- 44 offices (41 companies)\*
- \* One of the 42 companies included at the time of the survey was excluded as they had finished their work.

#### (1) Status of Medical Examination and Results

A total of 4762 workers had a medical examination, and 1139 were diagnosed with "thorough examination required," "treatment required," or "continuous treatment required," representing 24% of workers who had a medical examination. Among these, 269 (6%) were diagnosed with "thorough examination required."

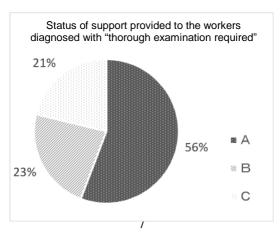
There was no significant difference in the proportionate breakdown in diagnoses between principal employers and relevant subcontractors.

# (2) Status of Support Provided to Workers Diagnosed with "Thorough Examination Required"

In the reports from each principal employer on healthcare status, we requested that they report the support provided to those who were diagnosed with "thorough examination required" as a result of medical examinations given in the second quarter (July–September). Specifically, the number of workers in each support of "A: Completed visit to medical institution and consideration of the present measures for employment by the employer" "B: Currently in process," and "C: Not visited medical institution after the instruction" among those diagnosed with "thorough examination required."

The results from the summary reports by each principal employer on the number of workers diagnosed with "thorough examination required" and the number provided with each type of support are shown below.

The number of workers diagnosed with "thorough examination required" 269
 Provided Support: A "Completed visit to medical institution and consideration of the present measures for employment by the employer" 150
 B "Currently in process" 62
 C "Not visited medical institution after the instruction" 57



Concerning the support provided to workers diagnosed with "thorough examination required" included in this report, 56% of this number were in the status of "completed visit to medical institution and been given consideration of the present measures for employment by the employer" (answer A) as of the receipt of the reports, and the percentage when including those in the process of shortly completing the support (answer B) was about 80%.

This result indicates that each company was in the status of instruction and management being appropriately implemented by their company and principal employers under the system established. Furthermore, because there was no significant difference in the summaries provided by workers of the principal employers and the relevant subcontractors, the workers of relevant subcontractors were receiving appropriate management.

Although there were 21% who answered as "C: Not visited medical institution after the instruction," we confirmed that there were cases in which a visit was completed after the report was received, cases in which instruction was continued, and cases in which the workers left the company, and these will be confirmed by the follow-up in the next quarter.

[See Annex-3]

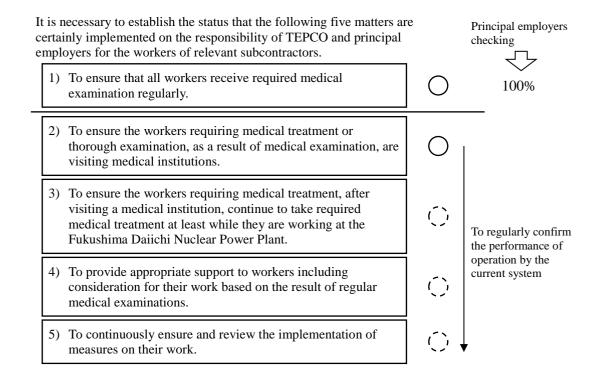
#### (3) Overview

During the reporting period, each principal employer reported the implementation status of medical examinations; the number of workers diagnosed with "thorough examination required," "treatment required," and "continuous treatment required"; and the status of support provided to those who were diagnosed with "thorough examination required" by the appointed deadline. This means that each principal employer appropriately understands and manages the status of support provided to workers with diagnosis by their relevant subcontractor under the individually established systems.

In reference to the specific objectives given above, this newly created system by the principal employers enabled the establishment of the systems beyond 2), which previously constituted about 60% of the total. Furthermore, this first report compiled after implementation of the system demonstrated achievements regarding the support provided to workers diagnosed as "thorough examination required."

Reports in the third quarter (October–December) followed by the fourth quarter (January–March) will provide information on the follow-up status of workers diagnosed with "thorough examination required" and to be supported in the second quarter, and the status of support provided to those who were diagnosed with "treatment required" and "continuous treatment required." We will follow the status of workers in each quarter as described and intend to confirm the performance of the system by continuing its application.

[In reference to the specific objectives 1) to 5)] (concerning establishing and starting to apply the system)



#### 4. Summary

Since the guideline was released, we have set up the specific objectives and established a system with each principal employer to achieve these objectives.

We received the initial reports from each principal employer since this effort commenced on the management status of medical examinations in the second quarter (July–September). Each principal employer appropriately submitted their report by the appointed deadline, which confirmed that their individually established systems were working effectively and the status in which each principal employer understands the implementation status of not only their own workers but also of relevant subcontractors was established.

Furthermore, the status of support provided to the workers diagnosed with "thorough examination required" and included in this report had already achieved completion of a visit to a medical institution and being given consideration to the present employment for about 60% of the total number of workers diagnosed with such. Furthermore, when those who were in the process and expected to shortly complete the support were included then the percentage was about 80%. This result confirmed that each company was in the status of instruction and management being appropriately implemented by their company and principal employers under their established system.

Moreover, because the reports from the next and following quarters will provide information

on follow-up status of workers diagnosed with "thorough examination required" and yet to be supported, and the status of support provided to those diagnosed with "treatment required" and "continuous treatment required," we will continue to review the status of implementation in the same manner.

As well as continuing this effort, we intend to further improve the system including efforts to solve problems that may occur in future by sufficient communication with each principal employer.

End of Report

#### Result of Current Status Survey on Healthcare

< Survey Method, etc. >

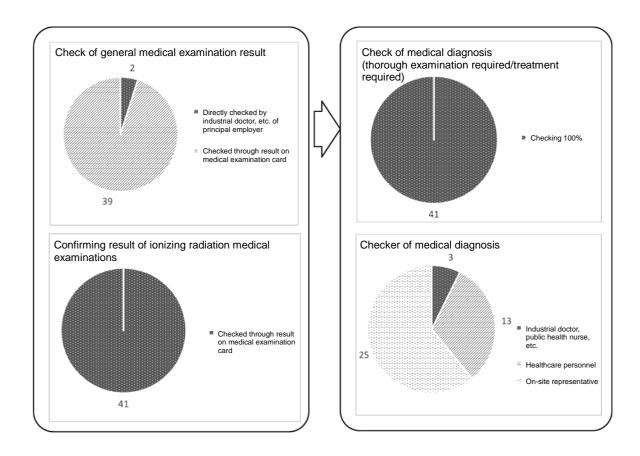
• Subjects : Principal employers 45 offices (42 companies)

• Survey period and method: From 25 February to 8 April, answer to survey slip and

interview

\* Shown below is a summary of 41 offices, excluding an office without any relevant subcontractor, from 45 offices surveyed.

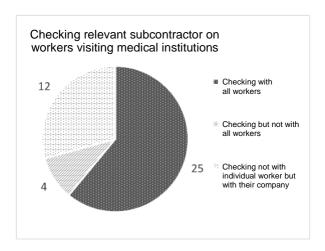
◆ <u>Status of principal employers checking medical examination results of workers of their</u> relevant subcontractors



- All of the principal employers were checking the results of medical examination (general and ionizing radiation) cards of workers of their relevant subcontractors. Moreover, each principal employer answered that they were checking 100% of medical diagnoses in the results of medical examinations.
- Three offices responded that checkers of medical diagnosis were "industrial doctor, public health nurse, etc.," and other offices responded that checkers were healthcare personnel or on-site representatives.

◆ Status of principal employers checking workers of their relevant subcontractors medically diagnosed with "thorough examination required" or "treatment required" are visiting medical institution, etc.

(The degree of principal employers' involvement in such workers of their relevant subcontractors)



• Concerning whether workers of relevant subcontractors who were medically diagnosed with "thorough examination required" or "treatment required," who visited medical institutions and received examination and treatment as instructed by medical doctors or not, 29 offices (approx. 70%) were checking as their principal employers. However, such workers were not always checked for their examination and treatment (25 offices (approx. 60%) answered with "checking with all workers.")

## Report Form from Principal Employer to Us (Standard)

\*Pale text in the form indicates examples

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Tokyo Electric Power Compar		Principal employer					
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# Result of Summary from Management Status Report of the Second Quarter (July–September) Concerning Medical Examinations

#### < Contents of Reports from Each Principal Employer to Us >

Number of workers by principal employer and relevant individual subcontractor

- Number of workers who took medical examinations during July–September
- Among them, the number of workers diagnosed with "thorough examination required," "treatment required," or "continuous treatment required"
- Status of support provided to those who were diagnosed with "thorough examination required." (Classified into A: Completed visit to medical institution and consideration of the present measures for employment by the employer, B: Currently in process, C: Not visited medical institution after the instruction)

#### < Subjects of Result Summary >

• Subjects: Principal employers 44 offices (41 companies)\* (among them, three offices did not have any relevant subcontractor)

\*One of the 42 companies included at the time of current status survey was excluded as they had finished their work.

Note: Because the number of workers shown below are simple counts from the reports from each principal employer, there may be duplication due to transfers of workers, difference in section by name of work between principal employer and relevant subcontractor, etc. Moreover, some offices counted the general medical examination and ionizing radiation medical examination separately.

#### 1. Status of Medical Examination and Results

O The number of workers who had a medical examination

: Total 4762 workers

(Principal employer 1089 workers/ Relevant subcontractor 3673 workers)

O Total number of workers with diagnoses (Sum of "thorough examination required," "treatment required," and "continuous treatment required")

: Total 1139 workers [24%]

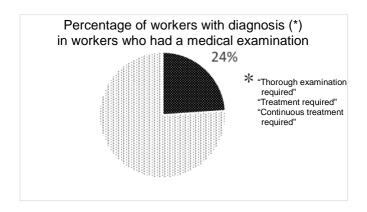
(Principal employer 329 workers [30%]/ Relevant subcontractor 810 workers [22%])

O Number of workers by type of diagnosis

Thorough examination required

:269 workers [6%]

Treatment required :161 workers [4%]/Continuous treatment required: 709 workers [15%]



- There were 1139 workers with diagnoses (total of three types of diagnoses), which accounted for 24% of all workers who had a medical examination. Among them, 269 (6%) workers were diagnosed with "thorough examination required."
- > There was no significant difference between principal employers and relevant

subcontractors in the percentage of workers with diagnoses.

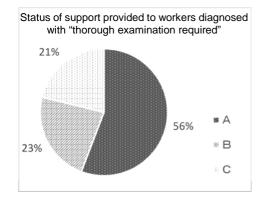
- 2. Status of Support Provided to Workers Diagnosed with "thorough examination required"
  - O Number of workers diagnosed with "thorough examination required"

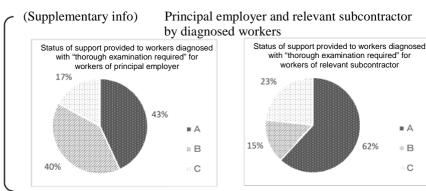
269 workers (Principal employer: 88 workers/ Relevant subcontractor 181 workers)

- O Number of Workers by Status of Support
  - A (Completed visit to medical institution and consideration of the present measures for employment by the employer) 150 workers (38 workers/ 112 workers)

• B (Currently in process)

- 62 workers (35 workers/ 27 workers)
- C (Not visited medical institution after the instruction)
- 57 workers (15 workers) 42 workers)





- Concerning the status of support provided for workers diagnosed with "thorough examination required" (269 workers in total), those who reported as "A (Completed visit to medical institution and consideration of the present measures for employment by the employer)" represented 56% of the total at the time of request for this report. For the same category applied to "workers of principal employer" and "workers of relevant subcontractor," the former was 43% and the latter 62%.
- Furthermore, when workers who were expected to be cared for shortly in "B (Currently in process)" were included, the number of workers for both principal employers and relevant subcontractors increased to 80%. It is thought that workers for relevant subcontractors were in the status of being checked for instruction to visit to a medical institution and followed up by their companies and principal employers.
- Although 21% of workers reported as "C (Not visited medical institution after the instruction)," we confirmed that there were cases in which workers visited a medical

institution after the report was submitted and cases in which workers left work after the medical examination. These will be confirmed in follow-up reports from each company in the next quarter.