# Japan's Plant Restart and Public Communication

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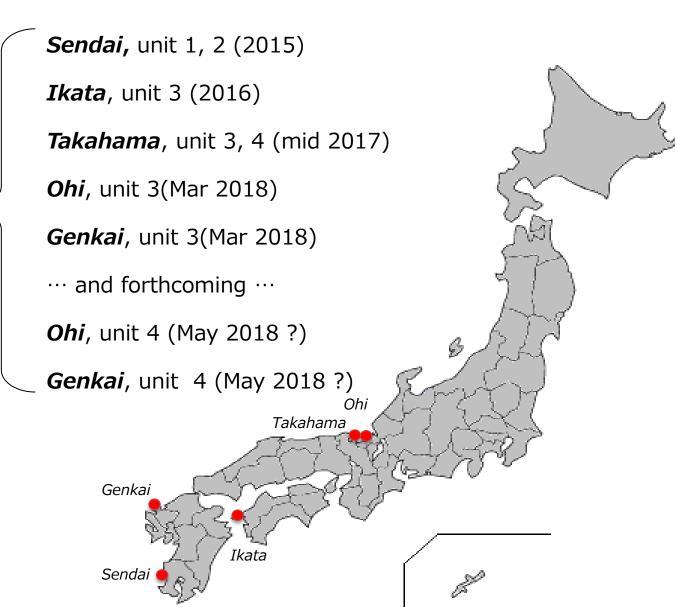
## Restarted nuclear power plants in Japan

60 plants in Japan

--- Shutdown: 18

--- Under NRA Review: 19

--- <u>Restarted: 7(+2)</u>



#### Three requirements for restarting operations

#### 1. NRA safety regulations

- NRA strictly reviews each restart plan drafted by operating companies.
- Four steps... 1) safety assessment, 2) construction plan, 3) operational safety program, 4) final check.

#### 2. Evacuation plans

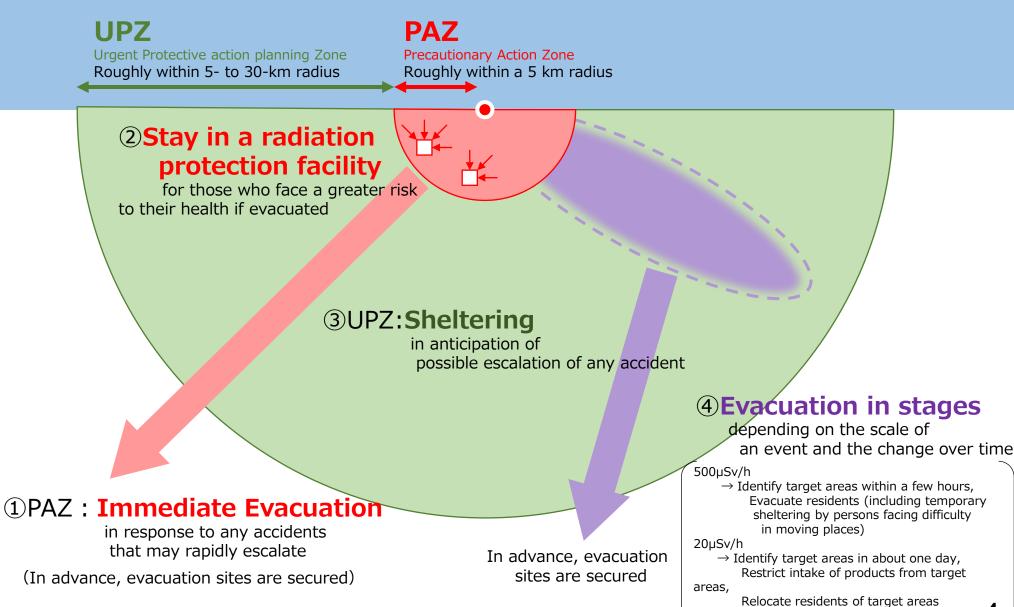
- Local governments establish evacuation plans, and Japanese government (the PM and his cabinet members) authorizes the plans.

#### 3. Approval of the governor and the mayor

- not a legal requirement

Evacuation plan (Genkai) 5km (PAZ) x 2.2 8,000 residents Madara Island 馬渡島 Azuchi-Oshima Island 的山大島 30km (UPZ) 25,000 residents Sheltered inside buildings Evacuate by bus Hirado Island Google SAGA

in about one week



#### Timeline for *Genkai* Plant

## 1. NRA safety regulations

Jul 2015

Safety assessment started

Jan 2017 Safety assessment approved

Aug 2017 Construction plan approved
Operational safety program
approved

## 2. Evacuation plan

Plan drafted

Dec 2016 Plan authorized

Mar 2017 Approved by mayor

Apr 2017 Approved by governor

Unit 3: Mar 2018 Unit 4: May 2018? Restart

#### Public opinion on the restart

Agree 28-20%

Disagree 67-55%

(Recent polls by newspapers)

# Four approaches:

- (1) Grass-roots public hearings/PR efforts
- (2) Web-based information (NEW)
- (3) International workshop at local government offices (NEW)
- (4) Platform for community involvement (TBD)

## (1) Grass-roots public hearings / PR

Symposia and meetings

272 areas15,348 attendants

Current topic

Long-term energy policy



Invite students (elementary ... high school)

#### (2) Web-based information

In addition to PDF documents, simple articles and illustrations.

(Optimized for smartphones, and easy to share on SNS)

Accessed <u>90,000 PV</u> / month

水に溶け出したとしても、放射性物質がベントナイト内に 閉じ込められることになります。

このガラス固化体、オーバーパック、ベントナイトの3つを合わせて、「人工バリア」と呼びます。人工バリアで覆われた高レベル放射性廃棄物は、地下深くの岩盤に埋設されます。地下深くの岩盤の中では、地下水がほとんど動かないため、放射性物質を含む地下水がベントナイトの外側、つまり岩盤中に出てきたとしても、極めて遅い速度で動くことになります。さらに、岩盤は放射性物質を吸着するため、その移動速度をより遅くします。こうした機能を持つ岩盤のことを「天然バリア」と呼びます。

こうした「人工バリア」と「天然バリア」という多重のバリアによって、地下深部に埋設した高レベル放射性廃棄物が地上の生活環境に影響を及ぼすことを防ぎます。

#### <高レベル放射性廃棄物を閉じ込める仕組み>



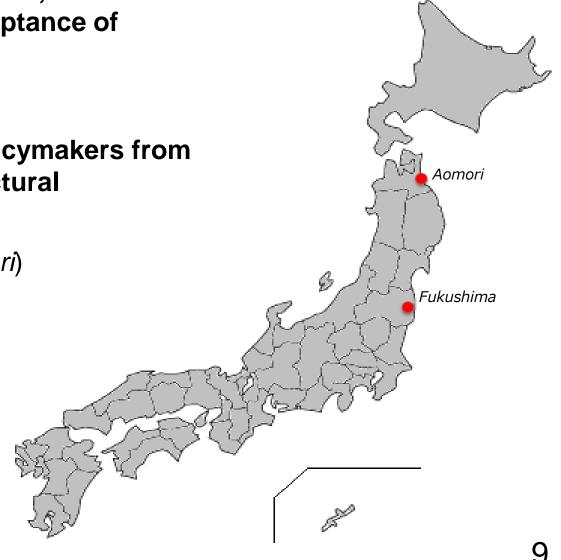
#### (3) International workshops at local government offices

Invited opinion leaders from UK, US, and Finland, and discuss public acceptance of nuclear power.

Hold workshops with energy policymakers from Asian countries, and local prefectural governments.

(Feb 2018 in Fukushima and Aomori)

- Sponsored by ERIA, the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia
- Organized by IEEJ, the Institute of Energy Economics, Japan



#### (4) Platform for community involvement

- A platform, not only for nuclear disasters, but also for common disasters, such as earthquakes and tsunamis.
- It may be effective to include hospitals, emergency response organizations, scientists, and other fields in the dialogue.

# Community Medicine

Hospital Nursing care Facilities

# Local Government

Prefectures Municipalities

# **Emergency Organizations**

JSDF, Fire Dept., Police, etc.

# **Local** Residents

Neighborhood associations, etc.

#### for community involvement

## **Platform**

①Keep an eye on the needs②Promote Community and Industry③Prevent various disasters④Dialogue

#### **Scientists**

Professionals for disaster prevention

#### **Local Industry**

Chamber of Commerce, shopping districts, etc.

#### **Power Utilities**

Evacuation support off-site

#### Government

CAO, METI