Japan’s Plant Restart and Public Communication

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60 plants in Japan
--- Shutdown : 18
--- Under NRA Review : 19
--- Restarted : 7 (+ 2)

Sendai, unit 1, 2 (2015)
Ikata, unit 3 (2016)
Takahama, unit 3, 4 (mid 2017)
Ohi, unit 3 (Mar 2018)
Genkai, unit 3 (Mar 2018)
... and forthcoming ...
Ohi, unit 4 (May 2018 ?)
Genkai, unit 4 (May 2018 ?)
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)**: 8,000 residents
  - Evacuate by bus

- **30km (UPZ)**: 25,000 residents
  - Sheltered inside buildings

Evacuate by bus
How to Evacuate

【Off-site measures】
(Nuclear Emergency Response Guidelines)

① PAZ: Immediate Evacuation
- In response to any accidents that may rapidly escalate
- (In advance, evacuation sites are secured)

② Stay in a radiation protection facility
- for those who face a greater risk to their health if evacuated

③ UPZ: Sheltering
- in anticipation of possible escalation of any accident

④ Evacuation in stages
- depending on the scale of an event and the change over time
  - 500μSv/h → Identify target areas within a few hours, Evacuate residents (including temporary sheltering by persons facing difficulty in moving places)
  - 20μSv/h → Identify target areas in about one day, Restrict intake of products from target areas, Relocate residents of target areas in about one week

UPZ
- Urgent Protective action planning Zone
- Roughly within 5- to 30-km radius

PAZ
- Precautionary Action Zone
- Roughly within a 5 km radius
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**
   - Dec 2016: Plan drafted
   - Mar 2017: Plan authorized
   - Apr 2017: Approved by mayor
   - 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)
Symposia and meetings
272 areas
15,348 attendants

Current topic
Long-term energy policy

Invite students (elementary … high school)
In addition to PDF documents, simple articles and illustrations.

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

Accessed 90,000 PV/month
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
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.

Local Residents
Neighborhood associations, etc.

Local Industry
Chamber of Commerce, shopping districts, etc.

Community Medicine
Hospital
Nursing care Facilities

Local Government
Prefectures
Municipalities

Emergency Organizations
JSDF, Fire Dept., Police, etc.

Power Utilities
Evacuation support off-site

Scientists
Professionals for disaster prevention

Government
CAO, METI

for community involvement
Platform
① Keep an eye on the needs
② Promote Community and Industry
③ Prevent various disasters
④ Dialogue