

Press Release (This is provisional translation. Please refer to the original text written in Japanese.)

April 17, 2011
Policy Planning and Communication Division,
Inspection and Safety Division,
Department of Food Safety

To Press and those who may concern,

Cancellation of Instruction to restrict distribution of spinach, kakina and parsley produced in parts or whole area of Ibaraki Prefecture, in relation to the accident at Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant

- As of 21 and 23 March 2011, the Nuclear Emergency Response Headquarters has issued Instructions to Prefectures concerned including Fukushima, Ibaraki, Tochigi and Gunma, ordering the restriction of distribution of foods concerned produced in these prefectures.
- As of 4 April 2011, the concepts of establishing and cancelling items and areas to which the restriction of distribution and/or consumption of foods concerned applies have been announced as the countermeasure policy of the Nuclear Emergency Response Headquarters.
- Based on the policy, today, the application for the change of Instructions on the restriction of distribution of foods concerned was submitted by Ibaraki Prefecture to the Nuclear Emergency Response Headquarters, following the consultation both with the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fishery.
- Based on the results of inspections conducted until today, the application was recognized as applicable to the concepts of establishing and cancelling items and areas to which the restriction of distribution of foods concerned applies. Hence, the Nuclear Emergency Response Headquarters has altered its Instruction on the restriction of distribution of foods concerned for Ibaraki Prefecture.

- 1 With regard to Ibaraki Prefecture, the restrictions of distribution of spinach produced in the prefecture (excluding Kitaibaraki-shi and Takahagi-shi) and kakina and parsley produced in the whole area, instructed on March 21 or 23 were cancelled today.
 - (1) The Instruction of the Nuclear Emergency Response Headquarters is attached as attachment 1
 - (2) The application of Ibaraki Prefecture is attached as attachment 2
- 2 The list of the Instructions on the restriction of distribution and/or consumption of food concerned in accordance with the Act on Special Measures Concerning Nuclear Emergency Preparedness is attached as reference.

<Reference>

Act on Special Measures Concerning Nuclear Emergency Preparedness
(http://www.japaneselawtranslation.go.jp/law/detail_main?id=106&vm=&re),

Article 20

(3) In addition to the instructions under the provisions of the preceding paragraph, when the director-general of the nuclear emergency response headquarters finds it especially necessary for implementing emergency response measures accurately and promptly in the emergency response measures implementation area covered by said nuclear emergency response headquarters, he/she may, within the limit necessary, give necessary instructions to the heads of the relevant designated administrative organs and the heads of the relevant designated local administrative organs, and the officials of said designated administrative organs and the officials of said designated local administrative organs to whom his/her authority has been delegated pursuant to the provisions of the preceding Article, the heads of local governments and other executive organs, designated public institutions and designated local public institutions, and nuclear operators.

Attachment 2: omitted

Instruction

17 April 2011

From Director-General of the Nuclear Emergency Response Headquarters
To Governor of Ibaraki Prefecture,

The Instruction to the Prefecture on March 21 2011 based on the Article 20.3 of the Act on Special Measures Concerning Nuclear Emergency Preparedness (Act No. 156, 1999) shall be changed as follows. The Instruction given April 10 shall be cancelled:

Requests shall apply to heads of relevant municipalities and food business operators concerned not to distribute spinach produced in Kitaibaraki-shi and Takahagi-shi.