

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

March 22, 2011  
Water Supply Division,  
Health Service Bureau

To Press and those whom may concern,

## Detection of radioactive materials in tap water in Fukushima prefecture (March 22)

Today, we obtained the Nuclear Emergency Response Headquarters' measurement results of radioactive materials found in tap water in Fukushima prefecture. Based on the results, we requested that Date-shi, Koriyama-shi, Tamura-shi, Minamisoma-shi (all are cities), and Kawamata-machi (town) inform their residents to refrain from having infants intake tap water.

### 1. The survey results of 77 locations in Fukushima prefecture (Attachment 1)

The results of the survey conducted on March 21 by the Government's Nuclear Emergency Response Headquarters (and measured by the Japan Chemical Analysis Center) on radioactive materials in tap water at 77 points within Fukushima prefecture are as follows. (None of the findings exceeded the index level except for the following.)

○Water supply exceeding the "Index values for restrictions on the intake of food and beverages (Attachment 1): Iitate-mura (village) Small-Scale Water Supply Utility: 2 points, 450 Bq (Becquerel)/kg and 430 Bq/kg (Radioactive iodine was detected in both locations.)

○Water supply exceeding the "Index values for infants (radioactive iodine)" (Reference 3): Date-shi (city) Tsukitate Small-Scale Water Supply Utility (1 point, 120 Bq/kg), Kawamata-machi (town) Water Supply Utility (1 point, 130 Bq/kg), Koriyama-shi (city) Water Supply Utility (1 point, 150 Bq/kg), and Minamisoma-shi (city) Water Supply Utility (1 point, 220 Bq/kg)

### 2. The survey results of 6 locations in Fukushima prefecture (Attachment 2)

The outcome of the survey conducted from March 16 to March 19 by the Nuclear Emergency Response Headquarters (and measured by the Fukushima branch office of the Environmental Radioactivity Monitoring Center of Fukushima) on radioactive materials in tap water at 6 points within Fukushima prefecture are as follows. (None of the measurements exceeded the index level except for the following.)

○Water supply exceeding the level of the "Index values for restrictions on the intake of food and beverages" (Reference 1): Tamura-shi (city) Water Supply Utility: 1 point, 348 Bq/kg (on March 17) and 317 Bq/kg (March 18) (Radioactive iodine was detected on both dates.) (※The level decreased to 161 Bq/kg on March

19.)

○Water supply exceeding the level of the “Index values for infants (radioactive iodine)” (Reference 3):  
Kawamata-machi (town) Water Supply Utility: 1 point, 293 Bq/kg (on March 18) and 130 Bq/kg (March 19)  
and Minamisoma-shi (city) Water Supply Utility: 1 point, 105 Bq/kg (March 18) and 185 Bq/kg (March 19)

### 3. Our response to the results

After receiving the survey results, the Ministry of Health, Labour, and Welfare (MHLW) requested to Date-shi, Koriyama-shi, Tamura-shi, Minamisoma-shi (all are cities), and Kawamata-machi that they inform their residents using the water supply utilities of Tukitate/Date-shi, Koriyama-shi, Tamura-shi, Minamisoma-shi, and Kawamata-shi to refrain from having infants intake tap water (including giving infants formula milk dissolved by tap water, etc.).

※1 On March 20, the MHLW requested that Iitate-mura inform their residents using the Iitate-mura Small-Scale Water Supply Utility to refrain from drinking tap water. (Ongoing.)

※2 Please note that the possibility that the health risk posed by the short period of tap water intake exceeding the index values is extremely low. It is not intended to restrict drinking water (including infants' ingestion of tap water) in case you have no access to alternative drinking water. You can use the tap water for washing hands and bathing at home without any concern.

※3 Infants here mean babies who take breast feeding or formula milk.

(Reference 1)

Index values for the restrictions on the intake of food and beverages set out by the Nuclear Safety Commission

Radioactive iodine in drinking water: 300 Bq (Becquerel)/kg;

Radioactive cesium in drinking water: 200 Bq (Becquerel)/kg

(Note) The concept of the “Index values for restrictions on the intake of food and beverages”

The index values were established by the Nuclear Safety Commission by foodstuff category (drinking water, food, etc.), taking into account such factors as the amount of Japanese foodstuff intake, based on the radiation protection standards recommended by the International Committee on Radiological Protection (ICRP) (Thyroid gland equivalent dose of radiation iodine is 50 millisieverts (mSv)).

(Reference 2) “Measures to be taken against water supply associated with the accident in the Fukushima No.1 and No.2 nuclear power plants” (No. 1-0319 issued by Water Supply Division, Health Service Bureau, MHLW on March 19, 2011)

Measures to be taken against tap water in case radiation measured in the tap water exceeds in connection with the nuclear power plant accident: Water Supply Division, Health Service Bureau notified heads of departments in charge of water supply administration in each prefecture and water supply utilities:

- 1) To refrain from drinking tap water exceeding the index values;
- 2) That you can use the tap water for domestic use without any concern;

3) That it is not intended to restrict drinking tap water in case you have no access to alternative drinking water; and such.

(Reference 3) “Measures for infants’ ingestion of tap water” (No. 1-0321 issued by Water Supply Division, Health Service Bureau, MHLW on March 21, 2011)

○MHLW notified heads of departments in charge of water supply administration in each prefecture and water supply utilities, in case the level of radioactive iodine in tap water exceeds 100 Bq/kg, to refrain from giving infants formula milk dissolved by tap water, having them intake tap water, and so on.

Attachment 1: Omitted

Attachment 2: Omitted