

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

March 21, 2011
Water Supply Division,
Health Service Bureau

To Press and those whom may concern,

Detection of radioactive materials in tap water in Fukushima prefecture (Iitate-mura (village))

This is an announcement that radioactive materials in tap water in Iitate-mura (village), Fukushima were detected.

On March 20th 2011, 965 Bq (Becquerel)/kg of radioactive iodine, exceeding the “Index values for the restrictions on the intake of food and beverages” established by the Nuclear Safety Commission, was detected in tap water of the small-scale water supply utility located in Iitate-mura (village), Fukushima prefecture measured by the Fukushima branch office of the Environmental Radioactivity Monitoring Center of Fukushima detected (Attachment).

In response to the test results, the Ministry of Health, Labour, and Welfare requested Iitate-mura (village) through Fukushima prefecture that the village inform its residents using the small-scale water supply utility located in Iitate-mura (village), Fukushima prefecture to refrain from drinking water.

※ Please note that the possibility that the health risk posed by the short period of tap water intake exceeding those index values is extremely low. It is not intended to restrict drinking 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.

(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

(Note) The concept of the “Index values for the 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 radioactive 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” (issued by Water Supply Division, Health Service Bureau, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare on March 19th, 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 intake of 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 water in case you have no access to alternative drinking water;
and such.

Name of Water Supply Utility	Name of Intake Facility	Location of Intake Facility	Type of Raw Water	Sampling Date	Time
Iitate-town Small Scale Water Supply Utility	Takishita Drinking Water Treatment Plant (Takishita River)	Takishita, Iitoi	Surface Water	20/03/2011	12:30

Unit	Nuclide Concentration												
	⁵¹ Cr	⁵⁴ Mn	⁵⁸ Co	⁵⁹ Fe	⁶⁰ Co	⁹⁵ Zr	⁹⁵ Nb	¹⁰⁶ Ru	¹³⁴ Cs	¹³⁷ Cs	¹⁴⁴ Ce	¹³¹ I	¹³² I
Bq/kg	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	965	153

※three significant figure