

Labour Standards Bureau Notification No. 1226-18

26 December 2013

To:

Deputy Vice-Minister

The Ministry of Environment

Director-General

The Environmental Management Bureau

Director-General

Policy Bureau of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport

Director-General

Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Research Council of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

Director-General

The Reconstruction Agency

Vice Secretary General

The Team in Charge of Assisting the Lives of Disaster Victims of the Nuclear Emergency Response Headquarters of the Cabinet Office

From:

Director

Labour Standards Bureau

Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

### **Revision of Guideline on Prevention of Radiation Hazards for Workers Engaged in Decontamination Works**

Your continued extra understanding and corporation in the work of the Industrial Safety and Health Administration are gratefully acknowledged.

To prevent radiation hazards for workers engaged in works to decontaminate soil and wastes contaminated by radioactive materials discharged by the accident in the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant of Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO) associated with the Tohoku District off the Pacific Ocean Earthquake that occurred on 11 March 2011, works for collecting waste, etc. and works for nuclear accident-derived wastes disposal (hereinafter "Decontamination Works"), the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) has enforced the Ordinance on Prevention of

Ionizing Radiation Hazards at Works to Decontaminate Soil and Wastes Contaminated by Radioactive Materials Resulting from the Great East Japan Earthquake and Related Works (Ordinance of Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) No.152 of 2011; hereinafter "Ionizing Radiation Ordinance for Decontamination") and the Ordinance on Prevention of Ionizing Radiation Hazards (Ordinance of Ministry of Labour No.41 of 1972; hereinafter "Ionizing Radiation Ordinance"), and has also established the Guideline on Prevention of Radiation Hazards for Workers Engaged in Decontamination Works (Labour Standards Bureau Notification No. 1222-6, 22 December 2011), the Guideline on Prevention of Radiation Hazards for Workers Engaged in Works under a Designated Dose Rate (Labour Standards Bureau Notification No. 0615-6, 15 June 2012), and the Guideline on Prevention of Radiation Hazards for Workers Engaged in Nuclear Accident-derived Waste Disposal (Labour Standards Bureau Notification No.0412-6, as of 12 April 2013), and is instructing all those concerned to comply with these ordinances and guidelines properly.

Since the studies of establishing a systematic control organization of the radiation exposure doses of workers engaged in decontamination and related works have been finalized as notified with the Notification No. 1226-13 dated today, the MHLW has revised the guidelines accordingly as follows.

You are strongly requested to make those known to all related contractors as well as independent operators, communities and volunteer workers engaged in decontamination and/or other works under a designated dose rate to which the Ionizing Radiation Ordinance for Decontamination will not be applied, in consideration of the following notices.

#### Notices

##### 1. Purport of revision

- (1) The studies of a systematic control organization of the radiation exposure doses of workers engaged in decontamination and related works as part of the private sector efforts to meet the requirements for exposure dose management stipulated in the Ionizing Radiation Ordinance for Decontamination more reliably has been finalized today. Considering that for the scheme it would be beneficial to implement smoothly and reliably the exposure dose management stipulated in the Ionizing Radiation Ordinance for Decontamination and in the Ionizing Radiation Ordinance, the MHLW has decided to encourage those concerned to take part in this scheme by providing guidelines.
- (2) The scheme was initially started on 15 November 2013. However, any part that is related to Decontamination Works to be ordered by municipalities or any government agencies

other than the Ministry of Environment shall be started on 1 April 2014.

- (3) The priority investigation areas for decontamination have been updated. The latest knowledge on the simplified method for measuring radioactivity concentration in agricultural soil from ambient dose rate has been introduced.

## 2. Revision information

- (1) For the Guideline on Prevention of Radiation Hazards for Workers Engaged in Decontamination Works, No.8-2 has been revised as shown in section 1 of Attachment 1, Appendix 1 revised as shown in Attachment 2, and Appendix 6-2 revised as shown in Attachment 3.
- (2) For the Guideline on Prevention of Radiation Hazards for Workers Engaged in Works under a Designated Dose Rate, No. 7-1 has been revised as shown in section 2 of Attachment 1, and Appendix 1 revised as shown in Attachment 2.
- (3) For the Guideline on Prevention of Radiation Hazards for Workers Engaged in (Nuclear) Accident-derived Waste Disposal, No.10-3 has been revised as shown in section 3 of Attachment 1.