

To those who have a house or office in the evacuation-directed areas

November 2012

Team in Charge of Assisting the Lives of Disaster Victims

Based on “Basic idea and future problems on the reconsideration of the restricted areas and evacuation-directed areas after the completion of Step 2” (determined on 26 December 2011 by Nuclear Emergency Response Headquarters), the designation of some restricted areas was lifted and previous evacuation-directed areas were rearranged to define three new area categories: “areas in which evacuation orders are ready to be lifted,” “areas in which the residents are not permitted to live,” and “areas where it is expected that the residents will have difficulties in returning for a long time.”

This paper summarizes notes on these areas for your reference.

This is a revision of “To those who have a house or office in the evacuation-directed areas” issued in May 2012.

evacuation-directed areas after revision

[Areas in which evacuation orders are ready to be lifted]

evacuation-directed areas for which it is confirmed that the annual integrating dose will become lower than 20 mSv.

For these areas, the evacuation orders continue for a certain period of time but supportive measures for restoration and recovery are promptly taken and environmental equipment is promoted for the residents to return to the areas.

[Areas in which the residents are not permitted to live]

evacuation-directed areas whose annual integrating dose may exceed 20 mSv and where the residents are requested to continue the evacuation to reduce their exposure dose.

For these areas, decontamination is conducted in a planned way and restoration of infrastructure facilities which need early restoration is aimed at, in order for residents to return to the areas in future and reconstruct their communities. When it is ensured that the annual integrating dose in these areas is lower than 20 mSv, they are re-designated as “areas in which evacuation orders are ready to be lifted.”

[Areas where it is expected that the residents will have difficulties in returning for a long time]

Areas whose annual integrating dose could not become lower than 20 mSv even after 5 years. Areas where the annual integrating dose is 50 mSv or higher would be considered as such.

Notes on all areas

Evacuation orders are still effective for newly defined area categories (areas in which evacuation orders are ready to be lifted, areas in which the residents are not permitted to live, and areas where it is expected that the residents will have difficulties in returning for a long time). Those other than authorized persons must not enter these areas. When entering these areas, please follow the following points for safety and security.

- (1) Restoration status of roads and traffic signal varies from area to area. Please be careful when driving a car.
- (2) Please do not carry any foods and beverages stored in the area out of the area, or eat or drink them.
- (3) In principle, you are not allowed to stay overnight in the area.
- (4) In the area, pay full attention to fire if you smoke or use fire-using equipment.
- (5) Stay away from and do not touch disconnected electric cables, otherwise you may receive an electric shock.
Please press down the lever of the electric breaker of your house or office when you will not use electricity, for example when you are not in the area.
- (6) If you use LPG, please have a gas inspection by an LPG store before using it, as the gas may leak due to the earthquake.
If you find an LPG cylinder or other high-pressure gas cylinder on a road or other place, stay away and do not touch it to avoid danger of gas leakage, and contact the nearest LPG store or Fukushima LP Gas Association. (See Page 6.)
- (7) If you find an escaped farm animal in the area, keep away from it as it is very dangerous, and from a safe place contact a livestock hygiene center in your district.
- (8) Do not leave valuable goods or important things in your house or office. Securely lock the doors and windows.

Notes on areas in which evacuation orders are ready to be lifted

The following actions are allowed in “areas in which evacuation orders are ready to be lifted.”

- (1) Passing through major streets.
- (2) Residents temporarily returning home.
*Clearing or repairing houses, etc. by residents is allowed. However, staying overnight is not allowed.
- (3) Entering for purposes of public benefit. (*1)
*Such as for decontamination, disaster and crime prevention (patrolling), public infrastructure restoration (including electricity, gas, water supply, and communication), and preservation and management of farms.
- (4) Restarting of business necessary for restoration and recovery.(*1)
*Such as banks (including financial services by post offices and agricultural cooperative associations), waste disposal, and gas stations.
- (5) Restarting of business not for the residents.
*Such as manufacturing.
- (6) Restarting of farming or forest management.(*1)(*2)
- (7) Entering the areas for business associated with the above activities.(*1)
*Such as for maintenance and repair of materials and machines and transport of things for restoration and recovery, and repair of houses, etc.
- (8) Restarting of other business considered necessary for restoration and recovery.
*Business for those who temporarily return home or companies engaged in restoration and recovery works [small stores, restaurants, clinics (hospitalization not included)], can be restarted under the decision of the head of municipality if they pay attention to disaster and crime prevention.

The following actions are not allowed in principle in “areas in which evacuation orders are ready to be lifted.”

- (1) Staying overnight in the area.
- (2) Restarting of business for the residents [except as in (8) above.]
*For hospital, welfare and nursing facilities, restaurant business, retailing, service business, etc., only preparation work for restarting business, such as construction of new facilities, repair of existing facilities, carrying in and out of materials and machines, inventory control, etc., are allowed.
- (3) Restarting of business for customers mainly from outside the area.
*Such as hotels and tourist business.

In the areas, screening or dose control is not obligatory in principle. However screening can be conducted or a dosimeter can be lent for those who desire it.

*1, *2: See Page 9.

Notes on areas in which the residents are not permitted to live

The following actions are allowed in “areas in which the residents are not permitted to live.” However, since the annual integrating dose may exceed 20 mSv, do not enter the area if not necessary or urgent, for the prevention of unnecessary exposure.

Also, leave the area as soon as possible when finishing what needs to be done there.

(1) Passing through major streets.

(2) Resident’s temporarily returning home.

*Clearing or repairing houses, etc. by residents is allowed. However, staying overnight is not allowed.

(3) Entering for purposes of public benefit.(*1)

*Such as for decontamination, disaster and crime prevention (patrolling), restoration of facilities and major streets necessary for disaster prevention, and preservation and management of farms.

(4) Restarting of business exceptionally authorized as necessary for restoration and recovery and business not for the residents.

*Banks, waste disposal, gas stations, manufacturing business, etc. can be restarted under the decision of the head of municipality and Team in Charge of Assisting the Lives of Disaster Victims.

(5) Entering the area for business associated with the above activities.(*1)

*Such as for maintenance and repair of materials and machines and transport of things for restoration and recovery, and repair of houses, etc.

In the areas, screening or dose control is not obligatory in principle for temporarily returning home or temporarily entering. However, screening can be conducted or a dosimeter can be lent for those who desire it.

The exposure dose is expected to be reduced by following the instructions below.

- i) Do not stay or work outside as far as possible. (Do not walk for a long time. Use a car if possible.)
- ii) Wear usual clothes (can be lightly dressed in summer). Wear a mask if you think it necessary.
- iii) Do not drink water from rivers or rain.
- iv) You can drink tap water under direction of the water utility manager.
- v) Wash your hands and face and gargle after activities outside.
- vi) Carefully gargle if you get soil or sand in your mouth.
- vii) When entering a house, remove any soil from your shoes as much as possible.
- viii) Close windows if there is a lot of soil dust or sand dust. The room temperature could be high if no one has entered the room for a long period. In this case, to lower the temperature and ventilate the room, open a window that does not allow much wind to enter.
- ix) Do not smoke, drink, or eat outside.
- x) When carrying out things (e.g. bicycle or tricycle) from the area, clean them or wipe dust off them.

*1: See Page 9.

Notes on areas where it is expected that the residents will have difficulties in returning for a long time

Since the radiation dose in the areas where it is expected that the residents will have difficulties in returning for a long time is extremely high, barricades are placed or other physical protective measures are taken on the area boundary to require the residents not to enter the areas.

Even in this case, temporarily entering the areas may be exceptionally allowed in consideration of a request from the residents. (Such as temporarily entering the restricted area to accompany staff from a moving company or repair company.)

When entering the area, having secure screening, making personal dose control, and wearing protective equipment is required.

*1 In the areas, companies engaged in (1) decontamination of radioactive materials or (2) collecting, transporting, and storing removed soil and contaminated waste (of 10,000 Bq/kg or higher) and companies engaged in (3) works for handling designated contaminated soil and wastes (works handling contaminated soil, etc. of 10,000 Bq/kg or higher) or (4) works under a designated dose rate (works in a place where the average ambient dose rate exceeds 2.5 μ Sv/h) for life infrastructure restoration must take dose control measures, etc. specified in 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 the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare No. 152 of 2011).

The provisions are clearly summarized in the “Guidelines on Prevention of Radiation Hazards for Workers Engaged in Decontamination and Related Works” and “Guideline on Prevention of Radiation Hazards for Workers Engaged in Works under a Designated Dose Rate” by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare. For details, see the following web sites.

<http://www.mhlw.go.jp/new-info/kobetu/roudou/gyousei/anzen/dl/120118-01.pdf>

<http://www.mhlw.go.jp/new-info/kobetu/roudou/gyousei/anzen/dl/120625-3.pdf>

*2 For farming and forest management in the areas, follow directions from the government such as restriction on rice planting, and pay attention to the status of decontamination work.

* Police and fire fighters carry out crime and fire prevention activities in all areas.

Various inquiries and information

-General inquiry about nuclear disaster

Call Center, Policy Evaluation and Public Information Division,
Secretariat of Nuclear Regulation Authority, Tel. +81-3-5114-2190
08:30-20:00 (weekdays), 09:00-18:00 (Saturday)

-Inquiry about compensation for nuclear accident damage

TEPCO Advisory Center for Nuclear Accident Damage Compensation (Call Center),
Tel. +81-120-926-404

-Inquiry for problems related to electricity

Tohoku Electric Power Call Center, Tel. +81-120-175-366
(for power failure or emergency)

-Inquiry about LP gas

Fukushima LP Gas Association, Tel. +81-24-593-2161
Soso Branch of Fukushima LP Gas Association, Tel. +81-244-22-1141

-Inquiry about high-pressure gas cylinders other than LP gas cylinders

Fukushima High-pressure Gas Association, Tel. +81-24-942-8731

-Contact for an escaped farm animal

Kenchu Livestock Hygiene Center, Tel. +81-24-923-1661
Soso Livestock Hygiene Center, Tel. +81-244-24-3451
Iwaki Livestock Hygiene Center, Tel. +81-246-23-3117

-Information on the Great East Japan Earthquake

Public Relations Office
<http://www.gov-online.go.jp/sp/shinsai/index.html>

-Designation status of “areas in which evacuation orders are ready to be lifted,” “areas in which the residents are not permitted to live,” and “areas where it is expected that the residents will have difficulties in returning for a long time.”

-“Fureai News Letter”

(Information provided by the government to those who evacuated from damaged areas to other places)

<http://www.meti.go.jp/earthquake/nuclear/kinkyu.html>