

To:
Directors
Prefectural Labour Bureaus

From:
Director
Labour Standards Bureau
Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare
(Official seal imprinted)

Formulation of the Guideline on Prevention of Radiation Hazards for Workers Engaged in Nuclear Accident-Derived Wastes Disposal

The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) published today the “Ministerial Ordinance for Revision of Ordinance on Prevention of Ionizing Radiation Hazards” (Ordinance of MHLW No. 57 of 2013; referred to as “Ordinance for Revision”) and the “Rules on Special Education for Works on the Disposal of Nuclear Accident-derived Waste” (MHLW Notification No. 140 of 2013; referred to as “Rules on Special Education”), and will enforce or apply them on 1 July 2013.

With the progress in decontamination, disposal of waste contaminated by nuclear accident-derived radioactive materials is expected to be conducted extensively. Under such circumstances, there is an increased need for measures to protect workers engaged in this work from radiation hazards; therefore, the Revised Ministerial Ordinance and Rules on Special Education were formulated to define measures necessary to protect workers from radiation hazards in light of the characteristics of the work.

In addition, in an effort to support more appropriate promotion of the measures to protect workers from radiation hazards during the works to dispose of waste, etc. contaminated by radioactive materials discharged by the accident, “Guidelines on Prevention of Radiation Hazards for Workers Engaged in Accident-derived Waste Disposal” were formulated as in Annex 1. This was to collectively show the measures specified in the “Ordinance on Prevention of Ionizing Radiation Hazards” (MHLW Ordinance No. 41, 1972, hereafter referred to as the “Ionizing Radiation Ordinance”), other measures that employers shall take, and the essence of the provisions specified in laws and regulations associated with the Industrial Safety and Health Act.

You are strongly requested to instruct all concerned contractors, make known to prefectural and municipal authorities within your jurisdiction, and further promote the prevention of radiation hazards during the works of disposal of nuclear accident-derived waste, etc. in consideration of the following notes.

It should be noted that the Chief of the Environmental Management Bureau of the Ministry of the Environment; the Head of the Secretariat of the Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Research Council of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries; the Director-General of the Reconstruction Agency; and the Vice-Secretary General of the Team in Charge of Assisting the Lives of Disaster Victims of the Nuclear Emergency Response Headquarters of the Cabinet Office have been notified as in Annex 2, that the Prefectural Governors of Iwate, Miyagi, Yamagata, Fukushima, Ibaraki, Tochigi, Gunma, Chiba, Tokyo, Niigata, and Shizuoka have been notified as in Annex 3, and that related employers' groups have been notified as in Annex 4.

Notes

1. Instruction on the implementation of the items specified in the Ionizing Radiation Ordinance and the disposal work guidelines shall be given to contractors engaged in nuclear accident-derived wastes disposal works.
2. The contents of the Ionizing Radiation Ordinance and the disposal work guidelines shall be made known to prefectural authorities and the Fukushima Environmental Restoration Office of the Ministry of the Environment by explanation or other method depending on the jurisdiction situations.

12 April 2013

To:

Chief of the Environmental Management Bureau of the Ministry of the Environment,
Director-General of the Reconstruction Agency
Vice-Secretary General of 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

Formulation of the Guideline on Prevention of Radiation Hazards for Workers Engaged in Nuclear Accident-Derived Wastes Disposal

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

The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) will enforce or apply on 1 July 2013 “Ministerial Ordinance for Revision of Ordinance on Prevention of Ionizing Radiation Hazards” (Ordinance of MHLW No. 57 of 2013; referred to as “Ordinance for Revision”) and “Rules on Special Education for Works on the Disposal of Nuclear Accident-derived Waste” (MHLW Notification No. 140 of 2013; referred to as “Rules on Special Education”).

With the progress in decontamination, disposal of waste contaminated by nuclear accident-derived radioactive materials is expected to be conducted extensively. Under such circumstances, there is an increased need for measures to protect workers engaged in this work from radiation hazards; therefore, the Revised Ministerial Ordinance and Rules on Special Education were formulated to define measures necessary to protect workers from radiation hazards in light of the characteristics of the work.

In addition, in an effort to support more appropriate promotion of the measures to protect workers from radiation hazards during the works to dispose of waste contaminated by radioactive materials discharged by the accident, “Guidelines on Prevention of Radiation Hazards for Workers Engaged in Accident-derived Waste Disposal” (Labour Standards Bureau Notification No. 0412-2, 12 April 2013) were formulated to collectively show the measures specified in the “Ordinance on Prevention of Ionizing Radiation Hazards” (MHLW Ordinance No. 41, 1972), other measures that employers shall take, and the essence of the provisions specified in laws and regulations associated with the Industrial Safety and Health Act.

You are strongly requested to make these known to all concerned contractors in consideration of the contents of these guidelines.

12 April 2013

To:

Prefectural Governors of Iwate, Miyagi, Yamagata, Fukushima, Ibaraki, Tochigi, Gunma, Chiba, Tokyo, Niigata, and Shizuoka

From:

Director

Labour Standards Bureau

Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

Formulation of the Guideline on Prevention of Radiation Hazards for Workers Engaged in Nuclear Accident-Derived Wastes Disposal

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

The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) will enforce or apply on 1 July 2013 “Ministerial Ordinance for Revision of Ordinance on Prevention of Ionizing Radiation Hazards” (Ordinance of MHLW No. 57 of 2013; referred to as “Ordinance for Revision”) and “Rules on Special Education for Works on the Disposal of Nuclear Accident-derived Waste” (MHLW Notification No. 140 of 2013; referred to as “Rules on Special Education”).

With the progress in decontamination, disposal of waste contaminated by nuclear accident-derived radioactive materials is expected to be conducted extensively. Under such circumstances, there is an increased need for measures to protect workers engaged in this work from radiation hazards; therefore, the Revised Ministerial Ordinance and Rules on Special Education were formulated to define measures necessary to protect workers from radiation hazards in light of the characteristics of the work.

In addition, in an effort to support more appropriate promotion of the measures to protect workers from radiation hazards during work to dispose of waste contaminated by radioactive materials discharged by the accident, “Guidelines on the Prevention of Radiation Hazards for Workers Engaged in Accident-derived Waste Disposal” (Labour Standards Bureau Notification No. 0412-2, 12 April 2013) have been formulated to collectively show the measures specified in the “Ordinance on Prevention of Ionizing Radiation Hazards” (MHLW Ordinance No. 41, 1972), other measures that employer shall take, and the essence of the provisions specified in laws and regulations associated with the Industrial Safety and Health Act.

You are strongly requested to make these known to municipal authorities within your jurisdiction, in consideration of the contents of these guidelines.

To:
Chairpersons of the concerned employers' groups, as listed on a separate sheet

From:
Director
Labour Standards Bureau
Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

Formulation of the Guideline on Prevention of Radiation Hazards for Workers Engaged in Nuclear Accident-Derived Wastes Disposal

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

The Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) will enforce or apply on 1 July 2013 “Ministerial Ordinance for Revision of Ordinance on Prevention of Ionizing Radiation Hazards” (Ordinance of MHLW No. 57 of 2013; referred to as “Ordinance for Revision”) and “Rules on Special Education for Works on the Disposal of Nuclear Accident-derived Waste” (MHLW Notification No. 140 of 2013; referred to as “Rules on Special Education”).

With the progress in decontamination, disposal of waste contaminated by nuclear accident-derived radioactive materials is expected to be conducted extensively. Under such circumstances, there is an increased need for measures to protect workers engaged in those works from radiation hazards; therefore, the Revised Ministerial Ordinance and Rules on Special Education were formulated to define measures necessary to protect workers from radiation hazards in light of the characteristics of the work.

In addition, in a proper effort to support more appropriate promotion of the measures to protect workers from radiation hazards during work to dispose of waste contaminated by radioactive materials discharged by the accident, “Guidelines on Prevention of Radiation Hazards for Workers Engaged in Accident-derived Waste Disposal” (Labour Standards Bureau Notification No. 0412-2, 12 April 2013) were formulated to collectively show the measures specified in the “Ordinance on Prevention of Ionizing Radiation Hazards” (MHLW Ordinance No. 41, 1972), other measures that employer shall take, and the essence of the provisions specified in laws and regulations associated with the Industrial Safety and Health Act.

You are requested to make those known to your group members and properly promote the prevention of radiation hazards during decontamination and related works, in consideration of the contents of these guidelines.

Separate sheet

Japan Industrial Safety and Health Association

Japan Construction Occupational Safety and Health Association

Land Transportation Safety and Health Association

Japan Port Transport Industry Safety and Health Association

Forestry and Timber Manufacturing Safety and Health Association

National General Contractors Association of Japan

Japan Federation of Construction Contractors

National Federation of Industrial Waste Management Associations

National Federation of Forest Owners' Co-operative Associations

Central Union of Agricultural Co-operatives

Japan Trucking Association