Municipal solid waste emissions and disposal in FY2015

The situation regarding emissions and disposal of municipal solid waste (solid waste and excrement) in FY2015 was surveyed and the results are published. Highlights of the results are as follows. Amount of disaster waste processed using state subsidy and the expenses are excluded since FY2011.

1. Waste emissions and disposal

(1) Waste emissions

Total waste emission declined and waste emission per person per day slightly declined.

- Total waste emissions: 43,980,000 tons (down 0.8% from 44,320,000 tons in previous year)
- Waste emissions/person/day: 939 grams（down 0.8% from 947 grams in previous year） (In case foreigner population is excluded from overall population 954 grams, down 0.9% from 963 grams in previous year)

(2) Waste disposal

The amount of waste disposed of by landfill declined by 3.0% from previous year, and the recycling rate remains same level.

- Amount disposed of by landfill: 4,170,000 tons (down 3.0% from 4,300,000 tons in previous year)
- Waste reduction rate: 98.9% (98.7% in previous year)
- Direct landfill disposal rate: 1.1% (1.3% in previous year)
- Total amount of waste recycled: 9,000,000 tons (down 1.4% from 9,130,000 tons in previous year)
- Recycling rate: 20.4% (20.6% in previous year)

2. Waste incineration plants

- The number of waste incineration plants declined.
- Capacity per plant slightly rose.
- 30.5% of all plants were equipped with power generation facilities, and total power generating capacity increased.

As of March 31, 2016;

- Number of plants: 1,141 (down 1.8% from 1,162 in previous year)
- Capacity: 181,891 tons/day (183,511 tons/day in previous year)
- Capacity per plant: 159 tons/day (158 tons/day in previous year)
- Number of plants using residual heat: 765 (764 in previous year)
- Number of plants with power generation facilities: 348 (338 in previous year) (30.5% of total)
- Total power generating capacity: 1,934,000 kilowatts (up 1.4% from 1,907,000 kilowatts in previous year)

3. Landfill sites

- Available capacity has fallen for 17 years in a row since 1998 and, despite some fluctuation, the number of landfill sites has followed a downward trend since 1996. Securing landfill capacity consequently remains difficult.
- Owing to the decline in the volume of waste disposed of by landfill, the number of remaining sustainable years has slightly increased.
- Waste in areas such as Kanto and Chubu is being transported to other areas due to insufficient local landfill capacity. Landfill disposal operations are consequently becoming geographically broader in scope.

As of March 31, 2016;

- Available capacity: 104,040,000 cubic meters (down1.7% from 105,820,000 cubic meters in previous year)
- The number of remaining sustainable years: 20.4 years (20.1 years in previous year)

4. Waste disposal expenditure

Spending on waste disposal services increased slightly.

- Expenditure on waste disposal services: 1,949.5 billion yen (1,943.1 billion yen in previous year)
- Main categories of expenditure:

Construction and improvement	330.0 billion yen (	312.1 billion yen in previous year)
Disposal and running costs	1,509.5 billion yen (	1,512.4 billion yen in previous year)