

State of Enforcement

of the Law Concerning Special Measures Against Dioxins in FY 2000

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<Abstract>

Based on reports from prefectures and government ordinance designated cities (total of 86 local governments), the Ministry of the Environment summarized the state of enforcement of the Law Concerning Special Measures Against Dioxins in the period from the enactment of the Law on January 15, 2000 to March 31, 2001.

1. Number of specified facilities (as of March 31, 2001)

Facilities to which gas emission standards apply
: 19,688 facilities (No. of business sites: 15,390)
Facilities subject to effluent standards
: 4,255 facilities (No. of business sites*: 2,384)

* Business sites to which effluent standards apply

2. State of the implementation of controls (January 15, 2000–March 31, 2001)

On-the-spot inspection
: 18,894 cases (facilities to which gas emission standards apply)
: 2,253 cases (business sites subject to effluent standards)
Guidance
: 15,598 cases (facilities to which gas emission standards apply)
: 887 cases (business sites subject to effluent standards)
Order
: 2 cases (facilities to which gas emission standards apply)
: 0 case (business sites subject to effluent standards)

3. State of reporting the results of voluntary measurement (January 15, 2000–March 31, 2001)

No. of reports from facilities to which gas emission standards apply: 13,637
No. of reports from business sites to which effluent standards apply: 840

4. State of measures against soil contamination (January 15, 2000–March 31, 2001)

Designation of control areas: None
Formulation of plans of measures against soil contamination by dioxins: None

1. Introduction

Based on reports from 86 local governments of prefectures and government ordinance designated cities (hereinafter referred to as “designated cities”), the state of enforcement of the Law Concerning Special Measures Against Dioxins (Law No. 105 of July 16, 1999; hereinafter referred to as “Law”) in the period from the enactment of the Law on January 15, 2000 to March 31, 2001 was summarized.

2. Notification of Specified Facilities

The following summarizes the state of notification of facilities to which gas emission standards apply and that subject to effluent standards. The number of notifications of the facilities subject to effluent standards includes both facilities notified based on the Law and that approved in accordance with the Law Concerning Special Measures for Conservation of the Environment of the Seto Inland Sea (Law No. 110 of October 2, 1973; hereinafter referred to as “Seto Inland Sea Law”)¹.

Note 1.

When setting up facilities that discharge more than the maximum of 50 m³ of effluent per day into public waters and subject to effluent standards in the 13 prefectures related to the Seto Inland Sea, any person or business must obtain approval for establishment from the prefectural governors in accordance with the Seto Inland Sea Law or submit notifications. The Law provides the effluent standards and order for improvement.

(1) Facilities to Which Gas Emission Standards Apply

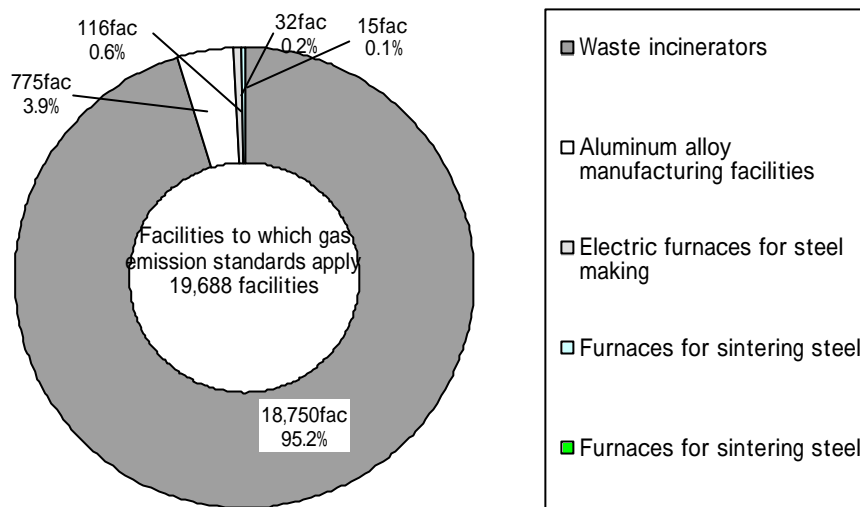
No. of facilities as of March 31, 2000	22,610
FY 2000	
Notifications of establishment [new facilities]	694
Notifications of use [existing facilities] ²	4,846
Notifications to change to facilities below the scale for regulation ³ [abolished, etc.]	8,462
Applications for abolishing use	
No. of facilities as of March 31, 2001(No. of business sites)	19,688 (15,390)

Notes

2. Those existing facilities that had not notified but sent in notifications in FY 2000.
3. Number of facilities to which gas emission standards are no longer applicable because of change to smaller operation, among the facilities that submitted notifications for change under Clause 1, Article 14 of the Law.

Facilities to Which Gas Emission Standards Apply

—Breakdown by Type



By facility type, waste incinerators account for the largest share of 95.2%, followed by aluminum alloy manufacturing facilities and electric furnaces for steel making

(2) Facilities Subject to Effluent Standards⁴

No. of facilities as of March 31, 2000	3,804
FY 2000	
Notifications/approvals for establishment [new facilities]	132
Notifications for use [existing facilities] ⁵	601
Notifications/approvals for changing to facilities below the scale for regulation ⁶ [abolished, etc.]	282
Notifications for abolishing use	
No. of facilities as of March 31, 2001 (No. of business sites)	4,255 (2,384)

Notes

4. Including approvals based on the Seto Inland Sea Law.

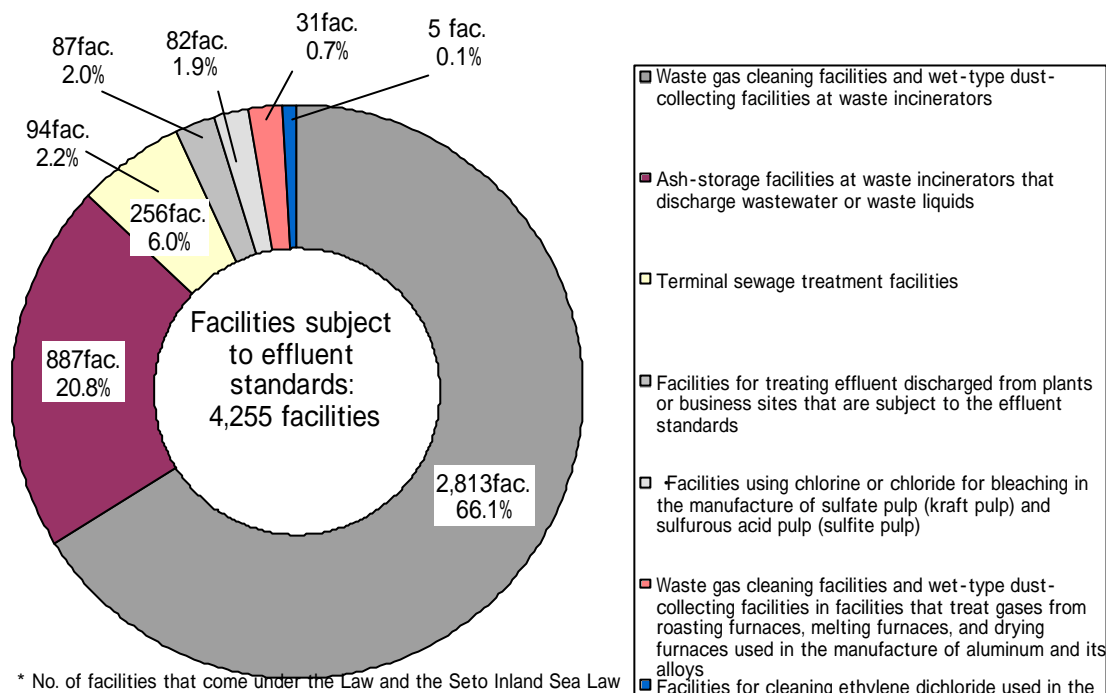
5. Those existing facilities that had not notified but sent in notifications in FY 2000.

6. The number of facilities that are no longer subject to the effluent standards because of change to smaller operation, among the facilities submitted applications for change under Clause 1, Article 14 of the Law; or the number of facilities that are no longer subject to approval because of change to smaller operation, among the facilities submitted notifications for change under Clause 1, Article 8 of the Seto Inland Sea Law.

By facility type, “waste gas cleaning facilities, wet-type dust-collecting facilities, and ash-storage facilities at waste incinerators that discharge wastewater or waste liquids” account for the largest share of 87.0%, followed by terminal sewage treatment facilities (limit to

facilities that treat sewage containing wastewater or waste liquids discharged from facilities subject to effluent standards).

Facilities Subject to Effluent Standards —Breakdown by Type*



3.

Implementation of Regulations at Specified Facilities

In the period from the enactment of the Law (January 15, 2000) to March 31, 2001, on-the-spot inspection was conducted in Japan in 18,894 cases for gas emission and 2,253 cases for effluent. Besides orders given based on the Law, guidance was given to business operators of specified facilities in 15,598 cases regarding gas emission (9,076 cases of oral guidance and 6,522 cases of written guidance) and in 887 cases regarding effluent (747 cases of oral guidance and 140 cases of written guidance).

Measurement was conducted by prefectures and designated cities as well as by business operators voluntarily. The results showed that facilities that exceeded the standards included 27 cases for facilities to which gas emission standards apply, and 1 case for facilities to which effluent standards apply (specified business sites with facilities subject to effluent standards). Order for improvement was given in two cases (one order for improvement and one order for temporary suspension of operation were given to a facility to which gas emission standards apply.) However, no penalty was handed down in any cases.

4. State of Reporting the Results of Voluntary Measurement by Business Operators

Based on the Law, the operators of facilities to which gas emission standards apply and facilities to which effluent standards apply must measure gases and effluents emitting from their facilities (for waste incinerators, including dust and soot, ashes, and other cinders from incineration) to find out the state of dioxin contamination at a frequency of more than once a year. The result must be

reported to the prefectural governors or the mayors of designated cities.

In the period from the enactment of the Law (January 15, 2000) to March 31, 2001, the results of voluntary measurement conducted by business operators were reported, including 13,637 cases for facilities to which gas emission standards apply, and 840 cases for facilities to which effluent standards apply.

Oral or written guidance or requests for report were given to business operators who did not report the result of voluntary measurement and to those whose facilities or business sites were found to have exceeded the standards in voluntary measurement.

5. State of Measures for Soil Contamination Controls

In the period from the enactment of the Law (January 15, 2000) to March 31, 2001, no areas had been designated as soil contamination control areas and no plans had been set up to tackle soil contamination.

6. State of Formulation of Ordinance for Regulations by Prefectures and Designated Cities

As of March 31, 2001, no local governments have formulated any regulations by ordinance in addition to the standards based on Clause 3, Article 8 of the Law. However, in addition to the facilities specified by the Law, five local governments (Saitama Prefecture, Tokyo Prefecture, Mie Prefecture, Kawasaki City, and Kochi City) issued their own ordinances to provide measures against dioxins, broadening the scope of regulations to facilities not specified by the Law.