Municipal solid waste emissions and disposal in FY2018

The situation regarding emissions and disposal of municipal solid waste (solid waste and excrement) in FY2018 was researched and the results are published. Highlights are as follows. However amount of disaster waste processed using state subsidy and the expense of waste disposal is excluded since FY2011.

1. Waste emissions and disposal

(1) Waste emissions

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

- Total waste emissions: 42,720,000 tons (down 0.4% from 42,890,000 tons in previous year)
- Waste emissions per person per day: 918 grams (down 0.2% from 920 grams in previous year) (In case foreigner population is excluded from whole population 938 grams, unchanged from 938 grams in previous year)

(2) Waste disposal

The amount of waste disposed of by landfill decreased by 0.6% from previous year, and the recycling rate slightly decreased.

- Amount disposed of by landfill: 3,840,000 tons (down 0.6% from 3,860,000 tons in previous year)
- Waste reduction rate: 98.9% (99.0% in previous year)
- Direct landfill disposal rate: 1.1% (1.0% in previous year)
- Total amount of waste recycled: 8,530,000 tons (down 1.8% from 8,680,000 tons in previous year)
- Recycling rate: 19.9% (20.2% in previous year)

2. Waste incineration plants

- The number of waste incineration plants decreased.
- Capacity per plant slightly increasing.
- The plants with power generation facilities increased to 35.0% of all plants, and total power generating capacity increased.

As of March 31, 2019;

- Number of plants: 1,082 (down 1.9% from 1,103 in previous year)
- Capacity: 178,336 tons/day (180,471 tons/day in previous year)
- Capacity per plant: 165 tons/day (164 tons/day in previous year)
- Number of plants using residual heat: 748 (754 in previous year)
- Number of plants with power generation facilities: 379 (376 in previous year) (35.0% of total)
- Total power generating capacity: 2,069,000 kilowatts (down 1.0% from 2,089,000 kilowatts in previous year)

3. Landfill sites

- Remaining landfill capacity has decreased, also the number of landfill sites is generally decreasing and such sites are difficult to secure.
- Although the amount of waste disposed of by landfill decreased, however remaining years of landfill decreased.

As of March 31, 2019;

- Remaining landfill capacity: 101,340,000 cubic meters (down 1.5% from 102,870,000 cubic meters in previous year)
- Remaining years of landfill: 21.6 years (21.8 years in previous year)

4. Waste disposal expenses

Expense of waste disposal increased.

- Expense of waste disposal : 2,091.0 billion yen (1,974.5 billion yen in previous year)
- Main contents of expense:

Construction and improvement 423.8 billion yen (359.7 billion yen in previous year)
Disposal and running costs 1,533.1 billion yen (1,503.8 billion yen in previous year)