

In the early morning of March 12, 2011, monitoring cars measured higher ambient dose rates within the premises of TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi NPS and the release of radioactive materials was first confirmed after the earthquake. At Unit 1, after an abnormal pressure rise in the containment vessel was observed, the pressure declined slightly. Therefore, it is considered that radioactive materials leaked from the containment vessel at Unit 1 and were discharged into the air. Thereafter, temporary rises of ambient dose rates were observed several times after the vent operations and explosions at the buildings. The highest ambient dose rate was measured at 9:00 a.m. on March 15. A monitoring car near the main gate measured the highest rate of approx. 12 mSv/h.

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