



After the accident at Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO)'s Fukushima Daiichi NPS, the Diet enacted the Act on Special Measures Concerning the Handling of Environment Pollution by Radioactive Materials Discharged by the Nuclear Power Station Accident Associated with the Tohoku District - Off the Pacific Ocean Earthquake that Occurred on March 11, 2011 (Act on Special Measures Concerning the Handling of Environment Pollution by Radioactive Materials) in August 2011.

Special Decontamination Areas and Intensive Contamination Survey Areas were designated as areas where decontamination is to be conducted under this Act on Special Measures. The decontamination has been conducted in these areas in line with the Act. The soil and waste removed through decontamination work are collected, transported, stored, and finally disposed of safely based on the same Act.

Special Decontamination Areas are areas where the national government directly conducts decontamination work. 11 municipalities in Fukushima Prefecture which were once designated as a Restricted Area or a Deliberate Evacuation Area are designated as Special Decontamination Areas.

Intensive Contamination Survey Areas are areas where municipalities take the initiative in decontamination work, and the national government takes financial measures and technical measures to assist these municipalities.

Whole area decontamination work was completed in all municipalities designated as Special Decontamination Areas by the end of March 2017. Thereafter, by the end of March 2018, whole area decontamination work was completed in all 100 municipalities in eight prefectures including Intensive Contamination Survey Areas, except for Restricted Areas.

In cases that there are any points where the effects of decontamination are not maintained after the completion of whole area decontamination work, causes are to be ascertained to the extent possible depending on the circumstances of individual points, and follow-up decontamination is to be conducted when it is found necessary by comprehensively taking into consideration the spread of the contamination and the effects and feasibility of decontamination work, in addition to additional exposure doses.

In Special Decontamination Areas, evacuation orders were all lifted by March 4, 2020, for all Habitation Restricted Areas and Preparation Areas for Lifting of Evacuation Orders. Additionally, in Intensive Contamination Survey Areas, it was confirmed that radiation doses decreased to below 0.23  $\mu\text{Sv/h}$  in 18 municipalities by the end of December 2021, and the designation as Intensive Contamination Survey Areas was removed for these 16 municipalities.

Included in this reference material on March 31, 2013

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