

Designation of Restricted Areas and Areas under Evacuation Orders and Removal Thereof

April 22, 2011, onward Area designation immediately after accident	April 2012, onward After confirming cold shutdown of the reactors
Restricted Areas^(*1) Areas within 20 km in radius from the Nuclear Power Station (NPS); The relevant areas were designated as Areas under Evacuation Orders on March 12, 2011.	Preparation Areas for Lift of Evacuation Order Areas where it is confirmed that annual cumulative doses will surely become 20 mSv or lower ^(*2)
Deliberate Evacuation Areas Areas 20 km or farther from the NPS where cumulative doses would be highly likely to exceed 20 mSv within one year after the accident	Habitation Restricted Areas Areas where annual cumulative doses would be highly likely to exceed 20 mSv ^(*2)
Evacuation-Prepared Areas in Case of Emergency Areas within 20 km to 30 km in radius from the NPS other than Deliberate Evacuation Areas; The relevant areas were designated as In-house Evacuation Areas on March 12, 2011.	Restricted Areas^(*3) Areas where annual cumulative doses exceed 50 mSv ^(*2) at present and would be highly likely to remain above 20 mSv ^(*2) even after 6 years from the accident

Areas under Evacuation Orders:

Areas for which evacuation orders were issued based on Article 15, paragraph (3) of the Act on Special Measures Concerning Nuclear Emergency Preparedness; Areas under Evacuation Orders and the 20-km zone of the Nuclear Power Station were rearranged and were newly designated as Preparation Areas for Lift of Evacuation Order, Habitation Restricted Areas or Restricted Areas.

(*1) Areas where access is restricted pursuant to the provisions of Article 63, paragraph (1) of the Disaster Countermeasures Basic Act as applied pursuant to Article 28, paragraph (2) of the Act on Special Measures Concerning Nuclear Emergency Preparedness, following the deemed replacement of terms

(*2) Based on the dose data obtained through the 4th airborne monitoring survey after correction as of March 31, 2012

(*3) The term "Areas where returning is difficult" was formerly used instead of "Restricted Areas" as a literal translation from Japanese.

Prepared based on the "Basic Idea on Review of the Restricted Areas and Areas under Evacuation Orders in Response to the Completion of Step 2 and Matters to be Discussed" (December 26, 2011; Nuclear Emergency Response Headquarters)

Immediately after the accident at Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO)'s Fukushima Daiichi NPS on March 11, 2011, the Nuclear Emergency Response Headquarters issued evacuation orders in order to avoid risks to residents' lives and designated the areas within 20 km from the NPS as Areas under Evacuation Orders on March 12.

On April 22, for fear of any risks that residents might be exposed to a large amount of radiation at one time as a result of worsening of the situation, the Headquarters designated the relevant areas as Restricted Areas to prohibit access in principle, and also designated areas 20 km or farther from the NPS where cumulative doses would be highly likely to exceed 20 mSv within one year after the accident as Deliberate Evacuation Areas.

On December 16, the reactors reached a state of cold shutdown and the Nuclear Emergency Response Headquarters confirmed that the chaotic situation after the accident ended. Accordingly, on December 26, the basic idea on review of Restricted Areas and Areas under Evacuation Orders was presented. The Headquarters made preparations for the review while closely consulting with the prefecture, municipalities and residents and making adjustments, and at the same time endeavored to address problems common to all subjected areas.

On March 30, 2012, the Nuclear Emergency Response Headquarters reviewed Restricted Areas and Areas under Evacuation Orders in accordance with radiation doses and problems unique to respective areas. By August 2013, the designation of Restricted Areas and Specific Spots Recommended for Evacuation was completely removed, and Areas under Evacuation Orders were newly designated as Preparation Areas for Lifting of Evacuation Orders, Habitation Restricted Areas, or Restricted Areas.

(Related to p.171 of Vol. 1, "ICRP Recommendations and Responses of the Japanese Government")

Included in this reference material on February 28, 2018

Updated on March 31, 2020