

October 31, 2022

Collection of marine samples as part of joint project with IAEA

At the request of the Nuclear Regulation Authority, to assist the Government of Japan in ensuring that the results of Sea Area Monitoring are credible and transparent, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has organized Interlaboratory Comparisons (ILCs) in Japan since 2014. In these ILCs, marine samples in the vicinity of the TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station (FDNPS) are collected jointly with the IAEA, and the IAEA and Japanese analytical laboratories analyzed the samples individually, and the IAEA intercompares and evaluates the analytical results.

The IAEA is also conducting a separate ILC to corroborate the results of Sea Area Monitoring in Japan as part of the IAEA Review of Safety Related Aspects of Handling ALPS Treated Water at TEPCO's Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station. Sampling for this ALPS related ILC will be conducted in parallel.

In addition to experts from IAEA Marine Environment Laboratories, experts from laboratories in Finland and Republic of Korea that are members of the IAEA ALMERA network¹ will visit Japan from 7 to 14 November this year to observe sample collection and pretreatment activities for the purpose of further transparency of the project.

The ILCs are part of a project initiated as a follow-up to the recommendations on marine monitoring included in the report² by the IAEA in FY2013 on the decommissioning of FDNPS.

IAEA press releases are found below:

URL: <https://www.iaea.org/press>

¹ <https://nucleus.iaea.org/sites/ReferenceMaterials/Pages/ALMERA.aspx>

(Schedule)

- 7-8 November 2022: Collection of seawater and sediment samples.
- 9-11 November 2022: Collection and pre-treatment of marine biota and fishery products.
- 14 November 2022: Pre-treatment of sediment samples.

² IAEA INTERNATIONAL PEER REVIEW MISSION ON MID-AND-LONG-TERM ROADMAP TOWARDS THE DECOMMISSIONING OF TEPCO'S FUKUSHIMA DAIICHI NUCLEAR POWER STATION UNITS 1-4 (Second Mission)

(https://www.iaea.org/sites/default/files/IAEAfinal_report120214.pdf)

³ The report of the 2021 ILC is available in the IAEA website. A video introducing the ILC is also available. (refer to URLs below)

• Report :

https://www.iaea.org/sites/default/files/22/06/2022-06-21_japan_ilc_2021_report_v4.2.pdf

• Video :

<https://www.iaea.org/newscenter/multimedia/videos/the-fukushima-data-checkers-monitoring-the-monitors>

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