Tsuruga International Symposium 2026
My Path in Nuclear Community Relations

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The Kansai Electric Power Co., Inc.

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Profile



- Name: Katsumi Takamizawa
- Date of Birth:

  September 3, 1969 (57 years old)
- Academic Background:

  Graduated from Fukui Prefectural Tsuruga High School in 1988
- Hobbies:

  Scuba diving, attending live performances
- Affiliation:

  Plant Siting Office, The Kansai Electric Power Co., Inc.

  Current role: Engaged in activities to promote understanding among local communities regarding the replacement of the nuclear power plant



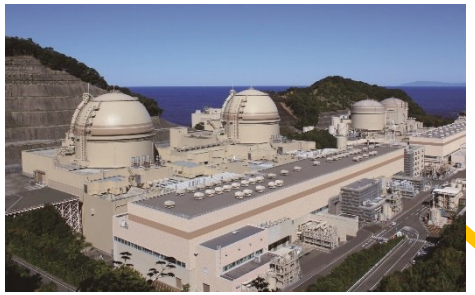


Nuclear power plants of The Kansai Electric

Mihama NPP

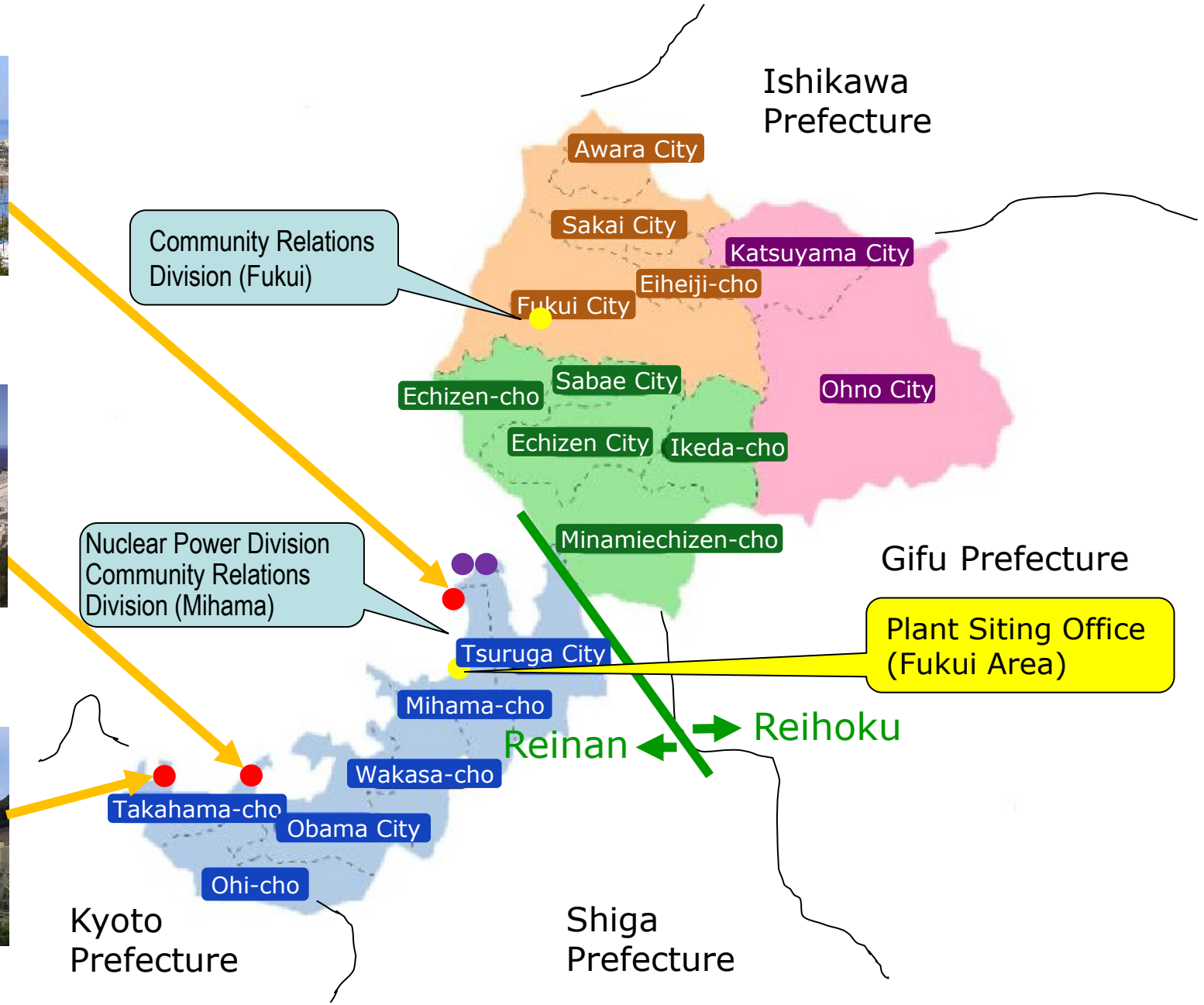


Ohi NPP



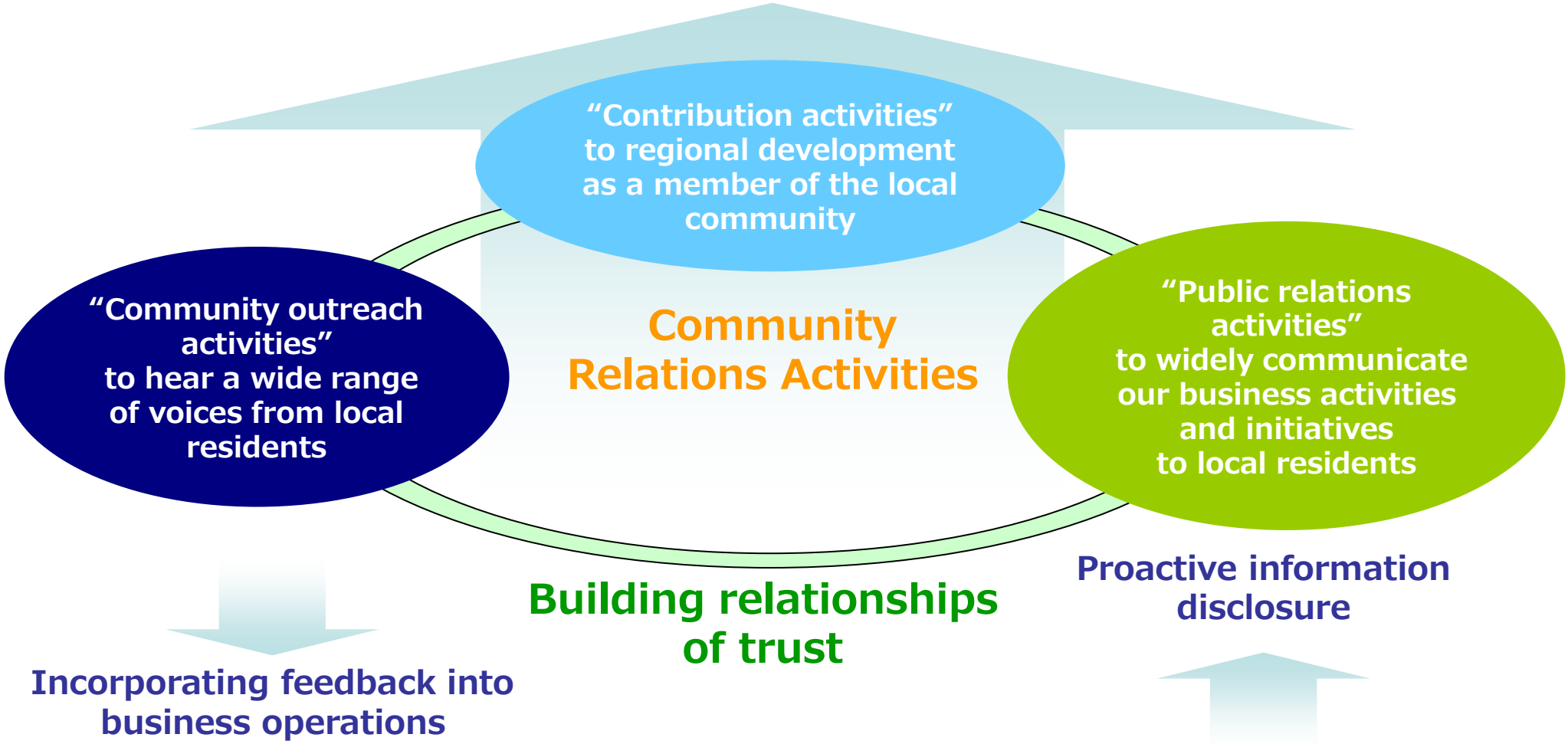
Takahama NPP





Community Relations Activities in the Nuclear Power Sector

Gaining public understanding of and trust in nuclear-related projects and activities



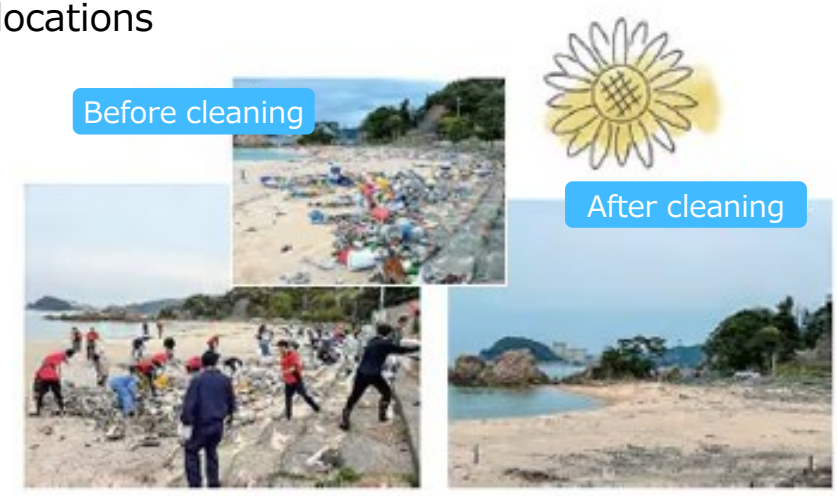
Community Relations Activities in the Nuclear Power Sector

"Contribution activities" to regional development as a member of the local community

◆Community contribution activities◆

●Participating in community beautification activities

・Participating in beautification activities at beaches, public facilities, and welfare facilities and other locations



Participating in the "Beautiful Beach Project in Suisho-hama"

◆ Activities as a member of the local community◆

●Attending the Mihama Itsuki Hiroshi Furusato Marathon



●Participating in the Mihama Town Regatta (Rowing competition)



●Cooperating with promotional events in the Tokyo metropolitan area organized by Fukui Pref., etc.



Community Relations Activities in the Nuclear Power Sector

"Community outreach activities"
to hear a wide range of voices from local residents

- Dialogue with local residents through door-to-door visits (conducted by employees engaged in nuclear-related operations)



- Hosting Nuclear Forums
  (Direct dialogue between local residents and the company president/executive management)



- Holding various information sessions
  (including presentations delivered to various local organizations)



Community Relations Activities in the Nuclear Power Sector

"Public relations activities" to widely communicate our business activities and initiatives to local residents

● Hosting power plant tours (Offering opportunities to see a nuclear power plant up close)



Guidance using VR videos

● Distributing information via the company website and social media (Facebook, YouTube, etc.)



This video was produced to mark the 50th anniversary of the start of operations at Mihama Nuclear Power Plant in November 2020. Please take a look.

Video about 50 years of nuclear power (YouTube)



Introduction of employees (X, Facebook)

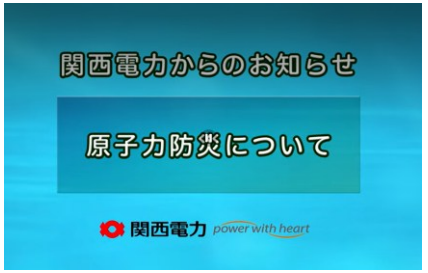
● Publication of the regional community magazine "Echizen Wakasa Fureai" (Providing nuclear-related and other information to the residents of Fukui Prefecture)





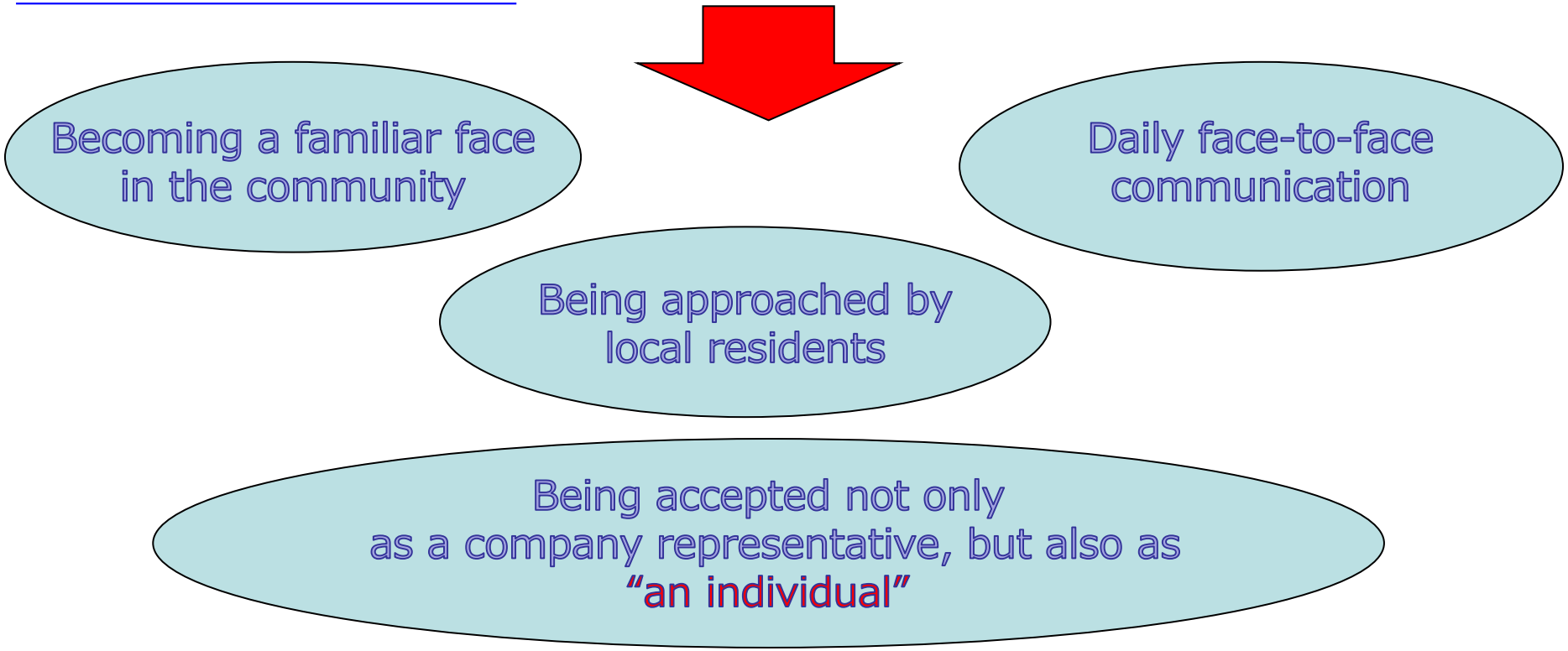
● Cable TV program "E Nakamatachi (good fellows)!" (Providing nuclear-related information to the residents of Fukui Prefecture)





Fostering Understanding among Local Communities of the Replacement

- Establishing a nuclear power plant requires a long period, approximately 20 years, from the initial planning through the environmental impact assessments and the construction, to the start of operations, with the understanding of the local community as a prerequisite.
- We serve as a bridge between power plants and local communities to ensure lasting coexistence. Thus, we engage in **patient, grassroots communication efforts to earn the trust of local residents**.



"Integrating into the local community in everyday life"

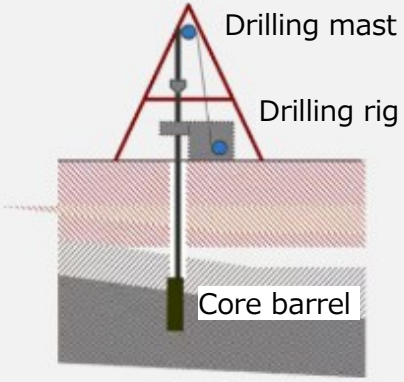
Voluntary Survey to Examine the Replacement

◆ The 7th Strategic Energy Plan explicitly positions the "maximum utilization of nuclear power," outlining a direction for the sustainable use of nuclear energy.

◆ **On November 5, 2025**, we resumed the voluntary on-site survey to examine the replacement of the Mihama Power Plant, which had been suspended since March 12, 2011, following the Fukushima Daiichi accident caused by the Great East Japan Earthquake.

Boring survey





Geological field survey



My Involvement with The Kansai Electric Power Co., Inc.

March 1988: Graduated from Fukui Prefectural Tsuruga High School. *Born and raised in Tsuruga

April 1988: Joined The Kansai Electric

Assigned to the Civil Engineering and Architecture Section, responsible for general administrative tasks within the section. *Surprised by how few female employees there were

April 1996: Transferred to the Environmental Monitoring Center at Wakasa Branch.

Assisted with radiation and radioactivity measurements around the power plant.

Learned about **radiation** here and created a radiation pamphlet for visitors.

*Despite having obtained vehicle operator certification, I was sometimes trained more harshly than male colleagues, being told I was conceited for a woman.

April 1999: Amendment to the Equal Employment Opportunity Act

Transferred to the Communication Group (public relations) to be responsible for the production of the company newsletter, TV programs and other materials.

*Whilst tasks were assigned regardless of gender, engaged in nuclear-related public relations (information dissemination).

February 2009: Transferred to the Regional Relations Group.

Maintained close ties with various organizations promoting nuclear energy in the Reihoku region of Fukui Prefecture.

March 2011: Transferred to the Human Resource Development Group, Kyoto Branch.

Engaged in various aspects of training and recruiting in the HR section. *Learned how the company operates

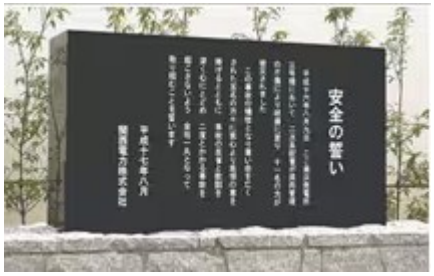
August 2013: Transferred to Mihama NPP. *Interacted with personnel from cooperating companies

June 2019: Promoted to Assistant Manager of the Regional Relations Group. *First female high-school-graduate administrative executive in the nuclear sector

June 2024: Transferred to the Plant Siting Group (Fukui Area), Plant Siting Office

My Relationship with Nuclear Power

Major Events



Establishment of a “Pledge for Safety” day

- **Piping fracture accident at Mihama NPP Unit 3**
  - **This must never fade from memory.**
  - **A firm determination that such an accident must never happen again**

- **Accident at Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant**
  - **Feeling that I, as someone working in the nuclear industry, could be responsible**
  - **Family affected by the disaster**
  - **A strong commitment to the restart of nuclear plants, and efforts to foster public understanding**

- **Resumption of the voluntary survey for examining replacement at Mihama NPP**
  - **Moved one step closer to the goal I held since joining the company: to be involved in the construction of power plants**

Towards the Future of Nuclear Power and the Local Community

Passing the Torch to the Next Generation

- The nuclear industry remains heavily male-dominated.
- Hoping they will forge their own path, regardless of gender, to become someone whom others trust to perform a unique role no other person can do.

Toward the Future Together with the Community

- Relationships with local residents are not limited to interactions through each event and community activity; they are long-term relationships that continue for as long as the nuclear power plant remains in the community.

- For me, my connection with the local community has no clear end point; it is an ongoing, lifelong commitment.







Thank you for your attention.