Strengthening of Sea Area Monitoring in Response to the "Enforced Plan on Environmental Monitoring"

April 25, 2011

Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology

The sea area monitoring will be strengthened as follows as promptly as possible.

1. Addition of water sampling points [see the appended map]

- Six additional water sampling points (two coastal points and four off-shore points) will be designated in sea areas along the coast of and off-shore from Fukushima Prefecture, with the advice of the Fisheries Agency. As a result, water sampling points will increase from 28 points to 34 points.

At the 18 coastal sampling points (including the two additional points), water will be sampled and analyzed by the Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO). At the 16 off-shore sampling points (including the four additional points), water will be sampled by a vessel of the Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology and analyzed by the Japan Atomic Energy Agency.

As for the off-shore points, sampling has been started at the additional sampling points today (April 25).

- Start of monitoring in Ibaraki Prefecture (five off-shore points)

Water will be sampled by a vessel of the Japan Coast Guard and analyzed by TEPCO.

Sampling has been started at the sampling points today (April 25).

2. Start of three-layer water sampling according to the water depth (addition of middle-layer sampling)

As for off-shore points, water will be sampled from the middle layer (in the middle between the sea surface and sea floor), in addition to the current surface layer (approx. 1–2 m below sea surface) and the lower layer (approx. 10 m above the sea floor).

Fukushima Prefecture Monitoring Locations





Ibaraki Prefecture Monitoring Locations