



Environmentally friendly recycling
Safe disposal technology

TEPCO is also safely treating PCB.



Technology for safe treatment and recycling of PCB

Ascertaining that traces of PCB (polychlorinated biphenyl) are contained in some of the insulating oil* used in its pole transformers*, we process this oil at our own recycling center to detoxify. We use the processed oil to fuel power generation, and clean each transformer part and piece to enable recycle as material for steel or roadbeds.

Eco information

About PCB



PCB

Polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) has outstanding resistance to heat, stability, and insulating characteristics, and had been used widely as a material for insulating oil for transformers and so on. It was later found to be poisonous, and its production was banned in 1972, when the government also made it mandatory to remove and store equipment containing PCB. This storage had been for a long time, that is, until the establishment of technology for effective treatment of PCB. This regulation required electric power companies to keep PCB in storage for a long period of time until the establishment of effective treatment technology. In 2001, the enactment of the Law Concerning Special Measures Against PCB Waste prompted the creation of a proper treatment system, and a number of treatment facilities are now in operation.

Profile of the TEPCO recycling center

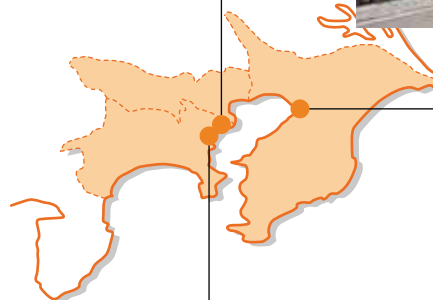
TEPCO Kawasaki Recycling Center

Facility for treatment of low-concentration PCB insulating oil

Startup: October 2002

Facility for container cleaning

Startup: November 2003



TEPCO Chiba Recycling Center

Facility for treatment of low-concentration PCB insulating oil

Startup: March 2002



TEPCO Yokohama Recycling Center

Facility for treatment of low-concentration PCB insulating oil

Startup: October 2001



Terminology

Pole transformers

Equipment attached to utility poles to change high-voltage power to a low voltage suitable for use in ordinary households etc.

Insulating oil

Oil that acts to insulate and cool electrical equipment such as transformers, condensers, and cable.