Water Leak at a Tank in the H4 Area in Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station

<Reference>
August 19, 2013
Tokyo Electric Power Company

<Overview>

- At around 9:50 AM today (on August 19), a TEPCO employee on patrol found water leaking from a drain valve of a tank dike in the H4 area in Fukushima Daiichi NPS. Later, the drain valve was closed. No significant change has been found in the monitoring post readings.
- As a result of confirmation on the site conditions, a puddle of approximately 1-2cm was found inside the dike, and 2 puddles of (1) approximately 3m × 3m × 1cm and (2) approximately 0.5mx6mx1m was found outside of the drain valve of the dike.

There is no trace of water having flowed into a public drainage ditch, etc. from the puddle found outside of the drain valve of the dike. Therefore, we consider that the water has not flowed out into the sea.

- At 2:28 on the same day, we determined that this incident corresponds to “a case when nuclear fuel material (not in the form of gas) or the like has leaked within an area controlled by the company due to an unpredictable event such as a failure of a nuclear reactor facility for power generation” as per Article 18, item 12 of the regulations concerning the operational safety and the protection of specified nuclear fuel material at the TEPCO’s Fukushima Daiichi NPS nuclear reactor facilities for the following reasons:

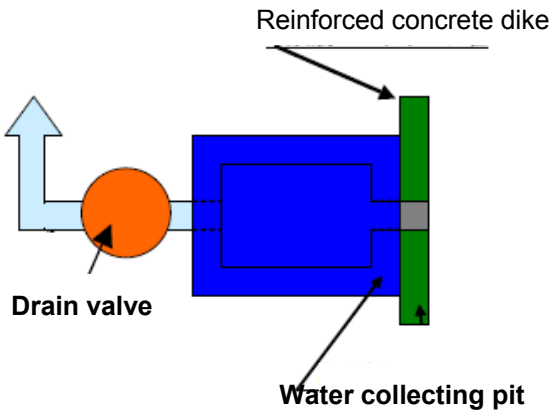
- Although we have not yet been able to identify the source of contaminated water, water accumulated inside the dike around a tank containing contaminated water has leaked outside the dike through the drain valve.
- It cannot be denied that water stored in a tank has leaked from the tank.
- High β ray and γ ray densities were detected in the puddle of water having leaked outside the dike.

Puddle (1)

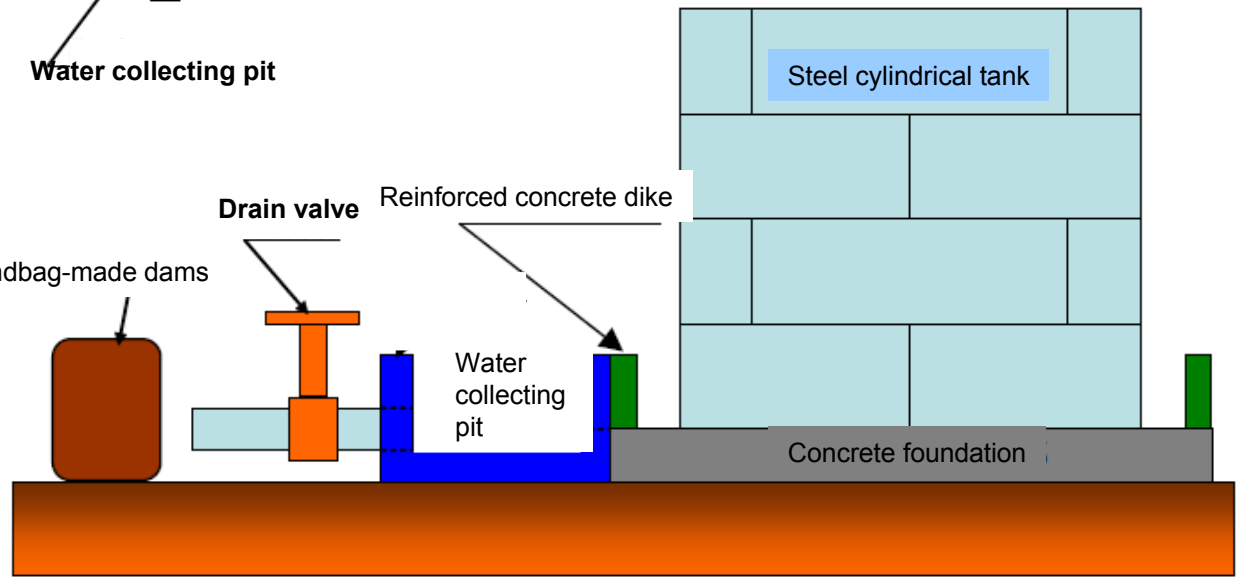
Puddle (2)

Structure of the Tank Dike

Plane view

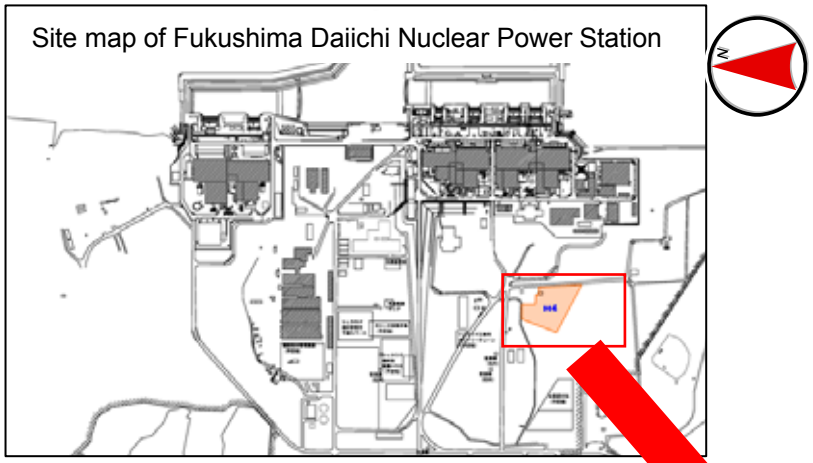


Section view



○Drain valve is installed to avoid accumulation of rainwater at the water collecting pit, and it will be closed immediately when a leakage from the tank is observed.

Location of Tanks at H4 Area



The place where the puddles were observed