

Fire near General Waste Incinerator in Fukushima Daiichi NPS

-Cause and Countermeasure-

<Reference>

October 23, 2013

Tokyo Electric Power Company

■ Date and Time

At around 12:48 PM on July 2, 2013

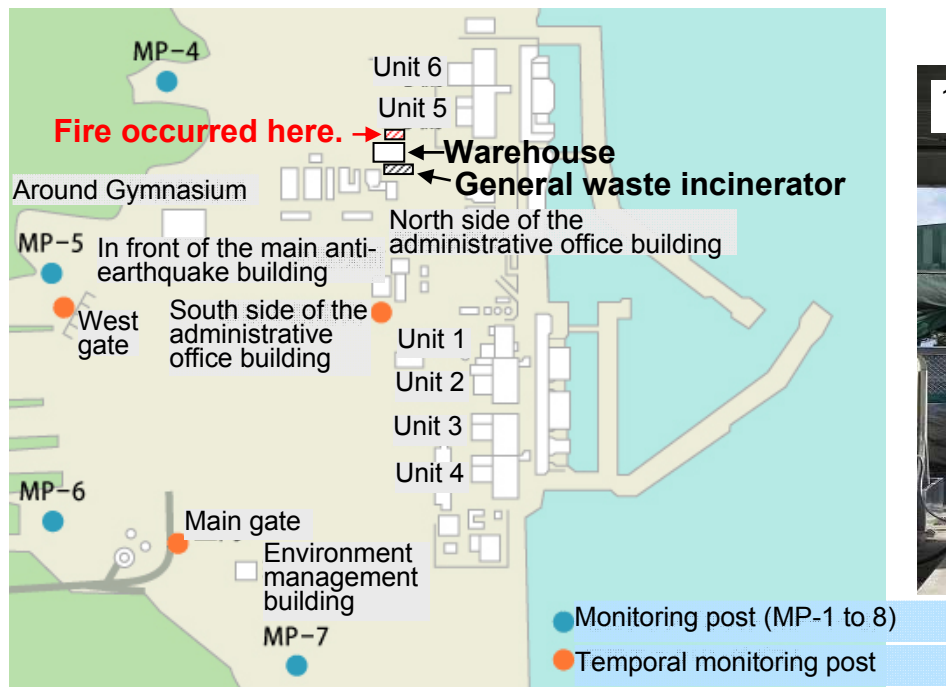
■ Location

Near the general waste incinerator in Fukushima Daiichi NPS

■ Situation

- An associated company worker found the temporarily stored cartons etc burning. Immediately, the worker started to extinguish the fire, and TEPCO reported to Fire Department at 12:54 PM.
- At 1:23 PM, TEPCO's self-defense fire bridge started to extinguish the fire. At 1:37 PM, the fire extinguishment was confirmed by Fire Department.
- Fire burning was found over a range of approx. 4m X 2m, and 1-meter high.

*Only non-contaminated garbage such as lunch box etc. are treated in the general waste incinerator.



○ Causes of the fire

We attribute this fire to spontaneous combustion, judging from the following aspects:

- 1) The central part of wood pallet and the carton facing the pallet burned the most intensely.
- 2) The cartons had no plenty of rainwater protection, and were laid under environment which could cause fermentation with a little water for a long time.
- 3) The cartons were piled up to 1.0- to 1.5-meter high, and it formed insulating layers in which inner heat hardly emitted outside, and inner temperature could easily increase.
- 4) It was fine weather on that day, and inner heat hardly emitted because the carton surface were exposed to direct sunlight.
- 5) Fresh air went into via openings of the wood pallet laid downward, and fermentation reaction might have moved into oxidation reaction under the high-temperature environment, finally resulting in a further increase in inner temperature
- 6) In addition to the cartons, there lay inflammable and combustible materials nearby, and they fostered the fire.

○ Countermeasure against fire

- We will remove the temporarily stored inflammable and combustible materials near the incinerator, and provide these materials in a flexible container bags after desiccation.
- We will cover the flexible container bags with protection sheet, for the purpose of preventing rainwater from entering the bags, and avoiding fermentation.
- We will inspect the location where the flexible container bags are stored in accordance with the incinerator operation, and write the measured temperature down on a check sheet.



Flexible container bags covered with protection sheet