

A Steel Beam Fell into the Spent Fuel Pool in Unit 3 Reactor Building at Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station

Detail

While a connected steel beam (between steel truss -2 and steel truss) was being cut to prepare for debris removal scheduled on September 22, another steel truss (assumed to be a truss, approx. 300mmX200mmX7m, approx. 470kg) which had been on the side of the spent fuel pool was found to be unstable. The work was temporarily suspended and we decided to promptly remove the unstable steel beam upon discussion with the contractor. Just when an operator was trying to grab the beam using an oil pressure fork lift, steel beam slipped and fell into the pool.

Incident description in chronological order

Saturday, September 22

- 8:30 The contractor (hereafter "JV") confirmed the tasks for the day at the morning meeting and TBM-KY.
- 8:40 TEPCO and JV confirmed the tasks for the day.
- 9:38 Started debris removal using a remote control heavy machinery.
- 10:00 Measured the atmosphere dose rate near the debris removal location (steel beam) using a remote control dosimeter.
- 10:01 Started removing steel truss -1.
- 10:36 Finished removing steel truss -1.
- 10:36 Started removing steel truss -2.
- 11:05 Temporarily stopped steel truss -2 removal since the area connected with steel truss could not be cut with the cutter.
- 11:05 As steel truss was found to have moved from the original position (unstable with half of it being underwater), TEPCO and JV decided to have it removed using an oil pressure fork lift.
- 11:07 While trying to grab steel truss with an oil pressure fork lift, steel truss slipped and fell into the pool when the tip of the oil pressure fork touched it

Condition

