

15 April, 2014
Nuclear Regulation Authority, Japan

Inappropriate Transfer of Contaminated Water at Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station

On 13 April 2014, TEPCO reported the Nuclear Regulation Authority (NRA), Japan on inappropriate transfer of contaminated water at Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station (NPS) pursuant to the Nuclear Regulation Act (Article 62-3, http://www.nsr.go.jp/english/library/data/related_act_1218.pdf) as follows:

- The Central Waste Building at Fukushima Daiichi NPS has been currently used as a storage facility for contaminated water from the Nuclear Reactor Buildings Unit 1 to 4.
- On 11 April, TEPCO found that the level of contaminated water in the Central Waste Building unnaturally fell down although the contaminated water was not transferred to other places, and on 13 April, it was found by TEPCO that some contaminated water in the Central Waste Building was transferred to the Incineration Building, which has been prepared as an emergency storage facility for contaminated water. TEPCO stopped the inappropriate transfer of contaminated water. The total amount of inappropriately transferred water is estimated by TEPCO to be approximately 203m³.
- The concentration of radioactive materials in the contaminated water in the Central Waste Building, which was measured by TEPCO on 8 April, is as follows:
Cs-134: 1.0×10^7 Bq/L
Cs-137: 2.7×10^7 Bq/L
- TEPCO has its view that the contaminated water transferred into the Incineration Building is unlikely to leak from the Building to outside because of the following points of fact:
 - No significant increase of radioactivity level in the nearest sub-drain water to the Incineration Building.
 - No penetration between the Incineration Building, to which contaminated water was transferred, and outside.
 - No change of the depth of contaminated water on the floor of Incineration Building.

NRA's Action

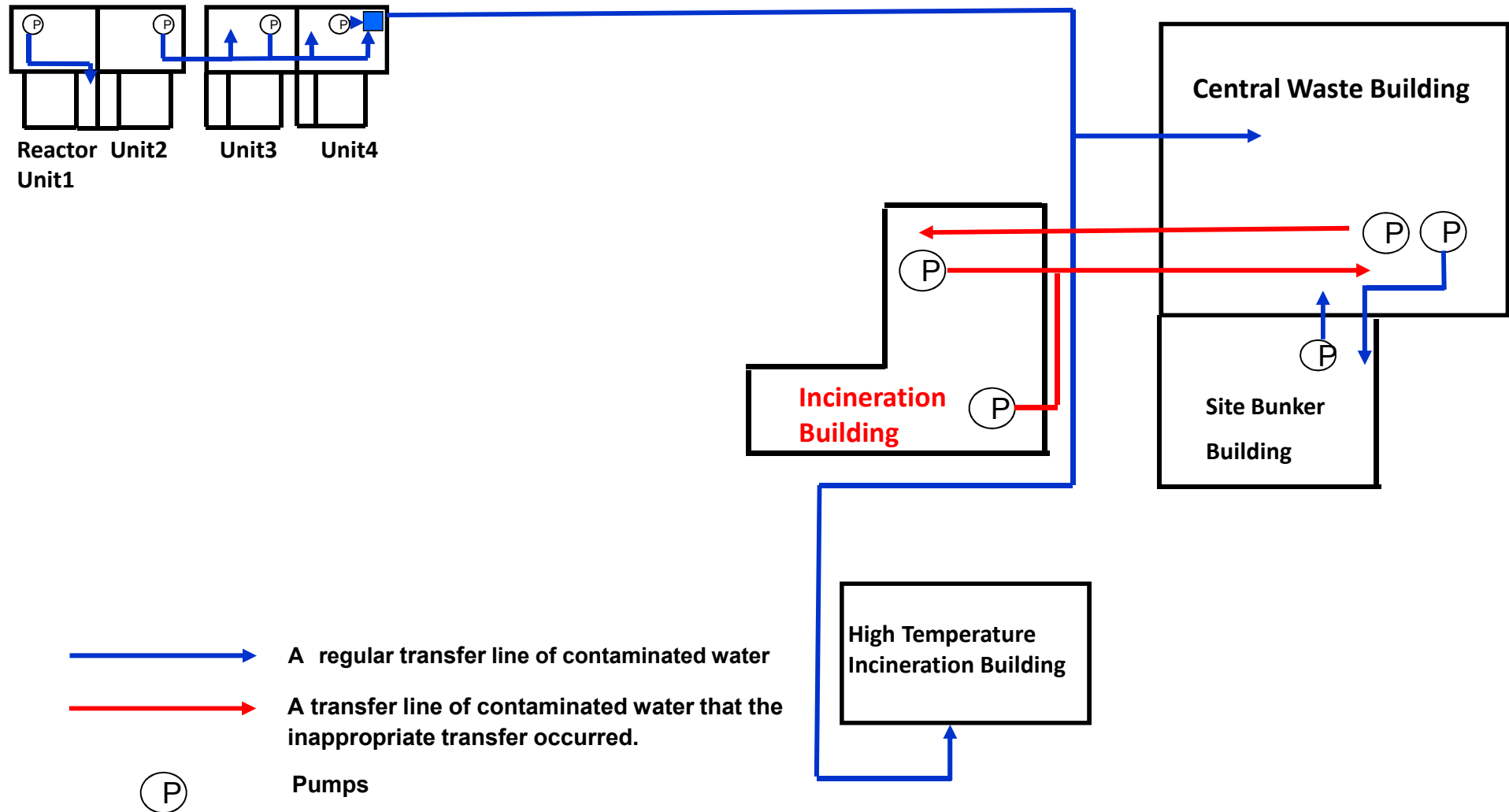
- Immediately after TEPCO found the inappropriate transfer of contaminated water, Nuclear Safety Inspectors of the NRA Regional Office instructed TEPCO to transfer the contaminated water in the Incineration Building to a storage facility in a prompt way. The water transfer started on that day.
- Nuclear Safety Inspectors of the NRA Regional Office are watching closely the current situation on site. And the NRA pays careful attention to TEPCO's cause-finding and preventive measures to be taken.

Attachment: Illustration of Contaminated Water Transfer

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Illustration of Contaminated Water Transfer



This is originally provided by TEPCO and modified by the NRA.