Targeting a Service Life Exceeding 40 Years

The Company was the first in Japan to submit an application for an extension to the service life of a nuclear power plant when it did so for Takahama Units 1 & 2. Although the Nuclear Reactor Regulation Law amended in 2012 stipulated the service life for nuclear power plants to be forty years, extending the service life once—to a limit of an additional twenty years—is possible by obtaining the approval of the Nuclear Regulation Authority. To apply for this approval, it is necessary to undergo a special inspection. The Company did so for Takahama Units 1 & 2 (December 2014 to April 2015) and Mihama Unit 3 (May 2015 to present writing). Also, in preparation for this service life extension, major items of equipment are replaced according to a plan.



Service Life Extensions in the U.S.A.

In the U.S.A., a system exists allowing for an extension to the forty-year operation permit (10CFR Part 54), and more than 70% of the power plants in that country have already obtained approval for a sixty-year service life, with more than 30% now operating past the forty year mark.

	Status			Number of plants
				99
	In operation	Application submitted		92
			Approved	74
			In process	18
		Application pending		7

Among the 74 plants approved for operation, 32 are running beyond the 40-year mark.