April 30, 2015

The Kansai Electric Power Co., Inc.

Implementation of Special Inspection for Unit 3 at Mihama Nuclear Power Station

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Regarding Unit 3 at Mihama Nuclear Power Station, we decided to commence the Special Inspection required for application for permission to extend the operating period pursuant to the New Regulatory Requirements[*1] in the middle of May.

In the case that any nuclear power plant is to be operated for extended years after 40 years elapsed since commencement of operation, it is required for the power plant to file an application for permission to extend the operating period accompanied by results of the Special Inspection and obtain the permission, in addition to the review of conformance to the New Regulatory Requirements.

We decided today to implement the Special Inspection for Unit 3 at Mihama Nuclear Power Station based upon the results of a Special Inspection for Units 1 and 2 at Takahama Nuclear Power Station which have the same output and type as Unit 3 at Mihama Nuclear Power Station and in view of the period during which the application for permission to extend the operating period [*2] is to be submitted.

In the future, we will conduct inspection of the object equipment such as reactor pressure vessels, containment vessels, etc., and based on the results, will make a judgement regarding an application for permission to prolong the operating period.

We will continue to make our best efforts to improve safety and reliability of nuclear power stations and utilize nuclear power generation as an important power source with understanding of the local community and all those concerned.

*1 It is specified that:

"A person who intends to obtain permission on extension of the specified period during which a reactor for power generation is allowed to be operated, pursuant to Article 113 of the Ministerial Ordinance for Commercial Nuclear Reactors concerning the Installation, Operation, etc., shall submit an application with the description of the listed items to the Nuclear Regulation Authority no later than one year but within one year and three months prior to expiration of the said period," and, "The application shall be accompanied by a document describing the results of an inspection for grasping the state of deterioration of a reactor and other equipment during the period up to the application (Special Inspection)."

*2 Since the specified operating period of Unit 3 at Mihama Nuclear Power Plant will expire November 30, 2016, the period during which the application for permission to extend the operating period shall be from September 1, 2015 to December 1, 2015.

<Date of Commencement of Commercial Operation of Unit 3 at Mihama Nuclear Power Station>

Date of commencement of commercial operation: December 1, 1976

Years elapsed: 38 years

Attachment: Overview of Special Inspection for Unit 3 at Mihama Nuclear Power Station

Attachment

<Overview of Special Inspection for Unit 3 at Mihama Nuclear Power Station>

<Contents of Special Inspection>

Object equipment	Object parts	Method of inspection
Reactor pressure vessel	Base metal and welded part (Core region 100%)	Check by ultrasonic test* whether or not there is any defect.
	Primary coolant nozzle corner part	Checking by eddy current test** whether or not there is any defect.
	In-core instrumentation cylinder (all pieces)	Checking by visual inspection whether or not there is any defect in welded parts and checking by eddy current test whether or not there is any defect on the inner surface of the instrumentation cylinder.
Containment vessel	Containment vessel steel plate (Entire accessible area for which inspection is possible.)	Checking coating film condition by visual inspection.
Concrete structures	Reactor containment facility, reactor auxiliary building, etc.	Checking strength, etc., with core sample (specimen).