

February 24, 2023

Report on Result of Investigation into Browsing “System Integrating Information on Renewable Energy Sources producers” of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry
(Report on Collection of Reports from the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry)

The Kansai Electric Power Co., Inc. (Code: 9503)

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(URL <https://www.kepco.co.jp/>)

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We confirmed that our employees had accessed the “System Integrating Information on Renewable Energy Sources producers*” (hereinafter, the “System”), a website managed and operated by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry using ID and password held by Kansai Transmission and Distribution, Inc. We reported the above to the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and received the collection of reports from the said ministry.

We investigated facts based on the above collection of reports, while putting together the analysis of causes for the facts, measures to prevent recurrence, etc. and reported them to the said ministry today.

As a result of the investigation, we confirmed that one of our employee had received ID and password of the System from an employee of Kansai Transmission and Distribution, Inc. (then working for our Transmission and Distribution Company) and that our two employees including the above employee had accessed the System in and after February 2020 to browse information on electricity generating operators subject to purchase under the feed-in tariff scheme for renewable energy (hereinafter, the FIT System).

In the course of request for subsidies for the FIT System, there was deviation between information on the electric power facilities of the electricity generating operators approved by the government, etc. and information on electric power facilities recognized by us, etc. The purpose of browsing the System is to confirm causes if the requested is not accepted. We confirmed that there had been no browsing in order to use proposal activities from us to customers.

We consider that this case was attributable to the insufficient recognition of regulations to ensure neutrality of electricity networks and the handling of personal information, in addition to insufficient clarification of operational process and appropriate review and thoroughness of manual.

We take this care very seriously and thus sincerely apologize again. In the future, we will sincerely respond to guidance from the supervisory authorities and, while considering investigation and measures for improvement, etc. at the Emergency Response Committee, we will make utmost efforts across the Group to prevent recurrence.

- * A system for business managing information on certification of renewable energy power generation business plans under the “Act on Special Measures Concerning Procurement of Electricity from Renewable Energy Sources (Renewable Energy Special Measures Act)” by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry. General electricity transmission and distribution utilities are granted accounts enabling to access information on certified business operators in the utilities’ own provision areas.