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Creating "questioning attitude" in individuals key to TEPCO reform

TOKYO, Oct. 12, Kyodo

A U.S. nuclear expert leading a panel tasked with monitoring Tokyo Electric Power Co.'s efforts to reform its nuclear division on Friday stressed the importance of nurturing a "questioning attitude" among every individual involved with reactor safety.

"The challenge that TEPCO will have is establishing a culture so that every individual understands they are responsible for safety," former U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission Chairman Dale Klein said after the panel's first meeting at the head office of the operator of the disaster-struck Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant.

Klein said that one of the fundamental differences seen between the United States and Japan is whether individuals are constantly asking themselves such questions as whether there is anything they can do to make reactors safer, or whether their approach is proper.

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