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Fukushima reactor buildings to be cleaned by robots from late July

TOKYO, Jan. 31, Kyodo

The operator of the tsunami-hit Fukushima nuclear power plant said Thursday it will use robots from late July to accelerate work to reduce radiation levels in buildings housing three crippled reactors.

The method, decided by Tokyo Electric Power Co. and the government, is aimed at making the buildings more accessible for workers to conduct preliminary investigations necessary to decommission the reactors that contain melted fuel.

The details of conditions inside the reactor containers are currently unknown. Under the plan, remote-controlled robots are expected to clean the interior of the Nos. 1 to 3 reactor buildings with high-pressure water and other means.

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