

Radiation Levels Rise near Leaky Tank at Fukushima N-Plant

Fukushima, April 6 (Jiji Press)--Radiation levels in groundwater outside of an underground tank close to the tank found leaking water tainted with radioactive substances have nearly doubled at Tokyo Electric Power Co.'s <9501> Fukushima No.1 nuclear power plant, TEPCO said Saturday.

As contaminated water leaking from the No. 2 tank may have reached soil near the No. 3 tank, located east of the leaky tank, TEPCO is investigating the cause of the rise in radiation levels.

The company collected groundwater around the No. 3 tank at around 9:30 a.m. (12:30 a.m. GMT) and detected 0.11 becquerel of radioactive substances, such as strontium, per cubic centimeter, compared with 0.059 becquerel in a check conducted Wednesday, when the company found water leakage from the No. 2 tank.

The No. 3 tank contains some 11,000 tons of contaminated water that is the same in nature as the leaked water.

An official of TEPCO's reconstruction headquarters in Fukushima Prefecture said that as the two tanks are placed close to each other, the leaked water may have made its way to around the No. 3 tank.

(2013/04/06-21:45)

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