

## TEPCO admits to insufficient tsunami measures

Tokyo Electric Power Company has admitted for the first time that its measures to protect the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant from tsunamis were insufficient.

The company acknowledged its failure at the first meeting of an independent panel on Friday.

The 5-member panel, headed by former chairman of the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission Dale Klein, aims to help the utility reform its management. The firm has been the focus of criticism since the nuclear disaster in March last year.



The firm presented to the panel a reform plan drafted by an in-house team. It said the utility was able to take necessary steps to prepare for tsunamis before the accident, and should have had more effective organization and held practical disaster prevention drills.

The team said TEPCO should address issues pointed out by the government and Diet investigative panels, and carry out reforms without exceptions.

The plan is an about-face from the utility's final report on its probe into the accident, released in June.

The report said the firm was not fully prepared for a nuclear disaster, but defended its decisions and responses after the Fukushima Daiichi accident. The government and Diet investigative panels severely criticized the report.

Team member Takafumi Anegawa says the company's stance on the accident has changed. He adds that TEPCO will not win public understanding by saying the company did all it could but failed to prevent the accident.

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