Tokyo Electric Power Co. will expand the geographic area eligible for compensation for damages from harmful rumors of radiation-contaminated agricultural, marine and forestry products beyond its crippled Fukushima No. 1 nuclear plant.

Iwate and Miyagi prefectures will be added to six prefectures, including Fukushima, that already qualify for agricultural and other damages.

Tepco will begin sending and accepting claims documents Wednesday.

The utility will compensate for estimated lost earnings caused by consumers avoiding purchases, costs for radiation tests and for the disposal of returned products. Compensation will be paid to producers, processors and distributors.

Damages related to marine products produced in Hokkaido, Aomori, Iwate and Miyagi prefectures will be newly compensated. Mushrooms and other forestry products grown in Tokyo and six other prefectures as well as tea leaves grown in Tokyo and Miyagi Prefecture will be added to items covered by compensation.