

NISA Gives a “B” to Safety Framework at TEPCO’s Fukushima I-2 and I-5

On October 7, the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency (NISA) reported to the Tokyo Electric Power Co. (TEPCO) about the results of the periodic safety-management evaluation that the Japan Nuclear Energy Safety Organization (JNES) had conducted of its Fukushima I-2 and I-5 NPSs (both BWRs, 784MW). In both cases, the rating was “B”, which indicates that certain areas of improvement remain, but that voluntary, internal regular inspections were appropriate.

Specifically, JNES’s evaluation of TEPCO’s framework to execute periodic, internal inspections identified five items in Unit I-2 needing improvement. Of those, two were confirmed to have been rectified while the evaluation was taking place, but the remaining three items could not be so confirmed, although the company was found to be taking steps toward their improvement. JNES thus described TEPCO’s safety-management structure at the two evaluated units as “functioning more or less as a quality-management system.”

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