

## **Mihama-3 to Resume Full Operations in Mid-January 2007**

**On October 23, the Kansai Electric Power Co. announced that preparations were being made toward the full resumption of the operation of its Mihama-3 NPS (PWR, 826MW) by mid-January of next year.**

Ever since the accident that occurred on August 9, 2004, in which five people died and another six were injured when a pipe burst in the Mihama-3 turbine building, the operation of the reactor has been halted. On September 21, however, a trial restart of operations was conducted, but stopped again 12 days later on October 3. Afterwards, inspections were carried out carefully through October 19, at which point the integrity of the reactor was confirmed.

As for the mid-January goal for the resumption of full operations, Kansai Electric said it would fully respect the wishes of the deceased and the injured, and was considering beginning the periodic inspections at Mihama-1 starting in early October.

Since all of the inspections are now complete, the various components of the Mihama-3 reactor – the turbine, the steam generator (SG), the feedwater heater, the condenser, etc. – will be stored using the necessary methods for each – vacuum, circulation, full-water, nitrogen-substituent, etc. – during the interval remaining until full operations are resumed.

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