

No Problems Found in Major Equipment at Kashiwazaki Kariwa-1 after July Earthquake

On October 1, the Tokyo Electric Power Co., Ltd. (TEPCO) released the results of Phase II of its inspection inside the reactor at the Kashiwazaki Kariwa-1 NPS, following the devastating earthquake in the region on July 16. No damage, deformation or drop-outs were found in any major equipment, but a stand on which a steam separator had been temporarily placed in the pool for temporary storage of equipment, and guide pins, were found to have been deformed. TEPCO said that since these were auxiliary parts, there was no effect on functions or structures.

Phase II was carried out from September 14 through October 1. The scope of the inspection included the following three steps: (1) the pressure vessel flange, guide rods, feed sparger, etc., at the vessel head; (2) reactor core support plates, fuel support plates, jet pump, low-pressure injection pipes, etc., in the middle section of the reactor, and (3) a steam dryer and steam separator that had been temporarily placed in the temporary equipment pool due to a periodic inspection.

No abnormalities were found at the top or middle sections of the reactor or with the steam dryer, but all four legs of the stand for the steam separator and both guide pins were deformed. Scratches were also found on the floor of the pool, but there was no leakage.

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