

Japan Finance Corporation (JFC) to Be Launched in October, Enabling Investment Credits for U.S. NPP Construction

Cooperative investments by Japan in enterprises related to the construction of new nuclear power plants (NPPs) in the United States will soon begin. The Japanese government ordinance made through a cabinet-level decision in August related to investment credits for nuclear-power enterprises in industrialized countries, along with the launch of the Japan Finance Corporation (JFC) in October.

On September 2, the atomic energy policy division of the Agency for Natural Resources and Energy (ANRE) held a regular meeting of the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC), at which an explanation was given about the investment credits by the JFC aimed at developed countries in the field of atomic energy.

On October 1, the JFC will be formally launched through the merger of the Japan Bank of International Cooperation (JBIC), the National Life Finance Corporation (NLFC), the Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries Finance Corporation (AFC), the Japan Finance Corporation for Small and Medium Enterprise (JASME), and others. It will be a joint-stock corporation fully owned by the government.

The latest organizational reform of government's financial institutions abolishes export finance (credits) extended to developed countries, except in the case of matching credits made to foreign corporations. Also, investment credits to such countries will, as a rule, be abolished, except for the development and acquisition of important resources. However, it will be possible to extend investment credits by government ordinance in those cases when it is deemed especially necessary for the purpose of promoting national policies related to the maintenance or advancement of the international competitiveness of Japanese industry.

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