

Japan's NPP Capacity Factor Drops to 58% for First Half of Fiscal 2008

According to the Japan Atomic Industrial Forum, Inc. (JAIF), the overall capacity factor for Japan's domestic nuclear power plants (NPPs) for the month of September reached 60.5%, with total generated electricity for the same period at 21.5 billion kWh (down 2.3% year-on-year).

Meanwhile, the capacity factor for the first half of FY08 (April to September 2008) fell 6.3 points from the same period a year before to 58.2%, with total generated electricity amounting to 126.2 billion kWh (down 10%). The drop was partly due to operational suspensions of all units at the Kashiwazaki-Kariwa NPS in Niigata Prefecture following the Niigata Chuetsu Offshore Earthquake of July 2007.

If one excludes from the calculations the ten reactors shut down since 2007, however, the average capacity factor for Japan's NPPs averaged 76.2% for the month of September, and 73.2% for the first half of the fiscal year.

Editor: Mio Kimuro, JAIF