

New NPP Inspection System to Start in New Year

In its official gazette of December 12, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) announced a new inspection system to be applied to all nuclear power plants (NPPs) in Japan starting on January 1, 2009.

Under the new system, inspections will be carried out at all 55 nuclear units in a 13-month interval. After that, the intervals between inspections will be gradually extended to 18 months, and then to 24 months, once it is confirmed from operational experience, accumulated maintenance data, etc., that the soundness of each unit will not be impaired by longer operation.

Editor: Mio Kimuro, JAIF