

June 8, 2011

Strengthening of Monitoring of Environmental Radioactivity Levels by Prefecture

1. Outline

- Upon the occurrence of the Great East Japan Earthquake on March 11, 2011, a declaration of a nuclear emergency situation was issued against the Fukushima Dai-ichi and Dai-ni NPPs. In response, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology has conducted strengthened monitoring of environmental radioactivity levels nationwide since March 12. (Readings of the monitoring have been publicized every day.)
- In order to meet recent increasing demand for the monitoring of air dose rates at 1 meter above the ground, which is the living space for people, MEXT requested, today on June 8, all 47 prefectures to conduct monitoring of air dose rates by using portable survey meters, in addition to other items already being monitored.

2. Items to be monitored additionally

Monitor air dose rates at the following points, using portable survey meters.

- (i) At 1 meter above the ground near locations where respective communities' monitoring posts are equipped (Monitoring results should be reported once every day.)
- (ii) At 1 meter above the ground, targeting broader areas within respective communities (Monitoring results should be reported each time when each community compiles them. In particular, locations with higher values should be monitored continuously.)

*Monitoring at points (i) above shall be commenced sequentially by communities as sufficient portable survey meters are prepared.

*Monitoring at points (ii) above shall be commenced sequentially by communities as the selection of monitoring points and other preparations are completed in accordance with the needs of respective communities.

*Standard monitoring methods should be specified in advance and monitoring should be conducted in a unified manner to the extent possible.

(Reference) Items already being monitored

- Air dose rate: Monitor once every hour at monitoring posts; Results are reported once every day.
- Fallout: Collect for 24 hours every day; Results are reported once every day if possible.
- Drinking water: Collect every day; Results are reported once every day if possible.

3. Method of release of the results

Monitoring results reported by communities shall be released promptly by MEXT.