

JAEA R&D Efforts for Decommissioning of the Fukushima Daiichi NPS

International Topical Workshop on Fukushima Decommissioning Research 2022 & The First 2022 Fukushima Research Conference October 15, 2022, J-Village, Fukushima

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1. Introduction





R&D for Environmental Restoration of Fukushima

R&D for Decommissioning

Building R&D Base/Platform

- facilities

- human networks etc.

Contributing to Fukushima Revitalization

- Collaboration with local stakeholders
- Working with local industry
- Human resource development





EA R&D sites/facilities for Fukushima R&D





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2. JAEA Roles for Decommissioning R&D



Organizations involved in decommissioning R&D





Decommissioning Science Diagram (Mainly for basic and fundamental R&D) MEXT Research grant for Decommissioning Science (Mission H)

Decommissioning Science Diagram mainly for basic and fundamental R&D







Scale of research topics

Remaining challenges and R&D needs

At the Fukushima Daiichi site, some progress has been made, …… But, there remain unpresedended challenges ahead for the long run.

- \checkmark A large amount of radioactive materials, remaining unsealed and unknown
- ✓ Incomplete barriers for containment
- ✓ Uncertainties on the state of radioactive materials and containment barriers
- ✓ Difficulty in an access

(Source: NDF Technical Strategic Plan 2021)

Goal !!

R&D Needs

- Collect, consolidate, and analyze data
- Characterization and visualization
- Methodologies for safety and risk assessment

"Sherpa guide" for "the mountain climbing team"









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3. Fuel Debris Retrieval R&D





Near-term goal: launch the first retrieval operations from Unit 2



- JAEA R&D focuses/priorities
 - Estimation of PCV internal condition and fuel debris characterization
 - Safety/risk assessment for fuel debris retrieval operation
 - □ Analysis of fuel debris

2030 vision: ideal state (to be discussed further)

- 1. Trial fuel debris retrieval from Unit 2 progressed, and larger-scale retrieval from Unit 3 nearly ready.
- 2. Fuel debris analysis (incl. non-destructive methods) becomes well ready
- 3. Methodologies for safety and risk management established

Fuel Debris Retrieval R&D

Preparation for launching fuel debris retrieval and R&D needs



- (5) Elucidation of aging degradation of fuel debris
- 6 Fuel debris storage and management technology
- Corrosion under peculiar environment

 Safety assessment for disposal (H₂ production, Corrosion, Aging, Exothermic property, Longterm stability, etc.)

Fuel Debris Retrieval R&D Preparation for launching fuel debris retrieval operations



Fuel Debris Retrieval R&D Ensure safety during a series of fuel debris retrieval operation

2030 vision (1) a : the first/trial fuel debris retrieval from Unit 2 is progressed, so that safety / risk assessment methodologies of a series of fuel debris management operation are established



- Examine safety/risk assessment for fuel debris retrieval operation
- ✓ Build/ upgrade sample analysis facilities
 ✓ Develop non-distractive
 - measurement technologies

<Analysis>

Fuel Debris Retrieval R&D Ensure safety during a series of fuel debris retrieval operation

2030 vision (1)b : larger-scale fuel debris retrieval from Unit 3 can become ready, as result of selecting and planning retrieval methods/approaches including access and containment





2030 vision ③: safety/risk assessment methods of fuel debris during the retrieval, transfer and storage are established

Key R&D priorities

- Estimate PCV internal condition and fuel debris characterization
- Establish methodologies for safety/risk assessment for fuel debris retrieval operation
 - Access to internal PCV
 - ✓ reducing radiation dose/ exposure

Fuel Debris Retrieval R&D Estimation of PCV Internal Condition and Fuel Debris Characterization Fuel debris retrieval Fuel debris retrieval (First trial at Unit 2) (Expansion of scale) Radiological and material Improve work environment **Estimate PCV internal** Consolidate data to and reduce dose condition and fuel debris analysis evaluate safety and risk 2030 vision: ideal state (to be discussed further) **Actions/solutions** Backcasting 1. The first/trial fuel debris retrieval from Unit 2 progressed, and larger-scale **JAEA R&D focuses/priorities** retrieval from Unit 3 nearly ready. **Estimation of PCV internal condition**

➡ Unit 2

➡ Unit 3

 \rightarrow Unit 1

Fuel debris characterization

simulated debris

Experimental approaches with

➡ Uranium-bearing particle analysis

- 2. Fuel debris analysis (incl. non-destructive methods) becomes well ready
- 3. Methodologies for safety and risk management established

Estimation of PCV Internal Condition Unit 2

Most of the fuel debris is sedimented in the lower part of the pressure vessel.
The fallen fuel debris is metallic and is deposited relatively thinly in the pedestal.
Molten Core Concrete Interaction (MCCI) has rarely occurred.



- [Understanding the fuel collapse phenomenon]
- •Molten fuel collapses into the cooling water, and once cooled and solidified
- •Many particulate debris (easily oxidized and dispersed, and easily air cooled)
- •Re-melted (1000-1300°C) by decay heat, locally damaging RPV and falling

Relation between plant conditions resulting from the accident progression and subsequent condition changes.



Molten and solidified metallic debris blockage (Stone-like accumulates)

Relocated pats of a control blade and the other assembly parts

Relocated and solidified metallic debris (Solidified molten material)

Understanding the formation process and characteristics of fuel debris through large scale simulation tests

Unit 2 containment vessel sediments and simulated products



Estimated internal PCV condition



Estimation of PCV Internal Condition Unit 3

Some fuel debris may remain in the lower part of the pressure vessel.
Fallen fuel debris is sedimented on the pedestal in a complex state due to complicated solidification from the solid-liquid state and entrapment of structural materials.
MCCI has rarely occurred.

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[Understanding the fuel collapse phenomenon]

- •Molten fuel collapses into the cooling water, and once cooled and solidified
- •Many lumpy debris (difficult to oxidize and disperse, difficult to air cool)
- •Re-melted (2000-2300°C) by decay heat, and fell over several hours in a highly viscous state

Relation between plant conditions resulting from the accident progression and subsequent condition changes.



Estimated to be under sediment. Observe central heave and residual structural material. \Rightarrow Viscous collapses over several hours Internal investigation result



Estimation of PCV Internal Condition Unit 1

•Almost no fuel debris estimated in pressure vessel •Fallen fuel debris is spread inside and outside the pedestal and sedimented in a complex.



[Understanding the fuel collapse phenomenon] • Data at the time of the accident is scarce, and adequate evaluation has not progressed.

Relation between plant conditions resulting from the accident progression and subsequent condition changes.

work



Quite different from conventional expectations

Internal investigation result



Estimated internal PCV condition



Fuel Debris Characterization Debris characterization data and knowledge-base





Analysis technology and characterization(samples obtained from 1F internal investigation)

Demonstrate a sequence of procedures for unknown particles containing uranium, including sample collection, transportation, selection of analytical methods, sample pretreatment, analysis, and evaluation. Preparations for the analysis of fuel debris for the trial retrieval of fuel debris and subsequent expansion of the scale have been reliably advanced. The results will be reflected in the analysis techniques for the Okuma Lab. 2.

Well plug smear of Unit1

Outer appearance and dose distribution



Outer appearance and IP

OAnalysis result



- Analysis results are integrated into debrisWiki and disclosed as a database.
- Utilized for estimation of knowledge such as chemical properties of fuel debris and estimation of accident progression scenarios.
- Provide the results to the international community through the OECD/NEA international project and utilize them for joint analysis by participating countries.

Integration of knowledge and data Systematic and multilayered compilation of findings



Fuel Debris Retrieval R&D Safety/risk assessment for fuel debris retrieval operation





Fuel Debris Retrieval R&D

Safety/risk assessment for fuel debris retrieval operation



Safety/risk assessment: methodologies/knowledge Radioactive particles/radiation effect

Evaluation of spatially dose rate before the start of debris retrieval operation

Safety/risk assessment: methodologies/knowledge Hydrogen generation

To assess the risk of H_2 explosion after storage of radioactive materials such as fuel debris, experimental and analytical researches from H_2 generation to explosion are conducted.

Safety/risk assessment: methodologies/knowledge Aging management

< Implemented mainly by JAEA >

Reducing radiation dose/exposure Radiation measurement/visualization

"Visualize" invisible radioactive hotspots in three dimensions Three-Radiation Compton -Understanding the distribution of radioactive substances. dimensional survey meter camera laser scanner Integrated Radiation Imaging System (iRIS) Working route Measuring of Image of high dose rate at 3D map visualizing radiation dose rate^{*1} contamination each point Signal processing board **Optical camera** The resultant image of the hot spots Hot spot (Red) obtained from the Compton camera is overlaid on the three-dimensional model inside the Fukushima Daiichi NPS building JAEA constructed using the photogrammetry technique.*2 Gamma-ray sensor Compact Compton camera

Reducing radiation dose/exposure Radiation measurement/visualization

Monitoring and confinement management of alpha nuclides are critical during fuel debris retrieval works.

In-situ <u>a</u>lpha <u>ae</u>rosol <u>m</u>onitor (IAAM)

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Real-time high-resolution visualization of individual alpha particle spots

Reducing radiation dose/exposure Radiation measurement/visualization

The Optical Fiber Laser-induced breakdown spectroscopy (LIBS) analysis method

Reducing radiation dose/exposure Advanced radiation source evaluation

Radiation source evaluation system by using digitalization technologies

NARAHA Center for Remote Control Technology **Development (NARREC)**

Efficient technology development and training via integration of physical and virtual mockups

- Mockup : Highly reliable and replicable testing under specific condition
- Virtual : Inexpensive evaluation under a variety of conditions

3D Virtual Reality System

Full scale mock-up field

Unit 2 PCV mock-up for arm-like equipment demonstration test and operator training (IRID)

※ Source: METI official HP

Robot test areas

Motion capture system

Fuel Debris Retrieval R&D

Analysis of Fuel Debris

Utilization of JAEA's facilities and human resource development through OJT at these facilities

Information and analysis items necessary for safety and risk assessment

- A Safety / risk assessment through fuel debris removal to storage / management
- B Safety / risk assessment in fuel debris processing

•In addition to the items applicable to temporary storage, the same analysis items as radioactive waste are applied. (Inventory evaluation: 38 Nuclide analysis, etc.)

C Safety / risk assessment of fuel debris remaining in the container

JAEA's hot laboratories for radiochemical analysis and human resource development

Fuel Debris Analysis Enhancing capability and standardization

Technology and system for evaluating the characteristics of fuel debris will be established as an approach for samples with unknown composition.

The simulated fuel debris prepared by an independent organization will be supplied to the hot laboratories in Japan.

The elemental composition will be analyzed using their own technology possessed by each laboratories.

	Hot laboratories	Dissolution method	Dissolution rate	n Remarks	
Simulated fuel debris (uniform composition) • Including U • 1F composition Tohoku University	NDC	HNO ₃	\sim 60%	 Simple method Dissolves U and B compounds Complement the overall elemental 	
	JAEA Oarai	HNO₃ + HF	~90%	composition by analyzing residue •Improved dissolution rate by adding a small amount of HF	Conducted by remote control within the cell
	NFD	Aqua regia +HF	98%	 Almost complete dissolution High accuracy Possibility of fluoride precipitatio 	20 16 10 12 2章 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2
	JAEA NSRI	Alkali fusion	100%	 Complete dissolution High accuracy Contamination of alkaline reagen and crucible components 	o U Gd Zr B Fe Cr Ni Si 元素 溶解液分析値の相対不確かさ(%)

d aet element and operation

Analysis techniques for 4 basic evaluation items (morphology of analysis samples, nuclide/element content, phase state/distribution, density, etc.), which are important for fuel debris analysis items, are defined and shared among the parties concerned.

Non-destructive assay technology for sorting of fuel debris and radioactive waste

- ✓ Destructive analysis of recovered PCV materials up to the order of kilograms stored is difficult.
- ✓ In order to reflect the sorting of fuel debris and radioactive waste in the future, non-destructive assay technology will be developed to sort them according to the amount of nuclear fuel material.

Candidate methods currently under consideration in the IRID project: (Participating organizations in the project: MHI, Toshiba ESS, Hitachi GE, JAEA collaboration) (1) Active neutron method, (2) Passive neutron method, (3) Muon scattering method, (4) X-ray CT method, (5) Passive gamma ray method

Active neutron method (JAWAS-T) NSRI/NUCEF/BECKY

Passive neutron method (PSMC) NCL/Pu-center

Considered for use in passive gamma-ray measurement, etc. NSRI/RFEF

Overview of basic test equipment for non-destructive assay measurement methods (JAEA facilities and equipment scheduled to be implemented from 2023)

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4. Radioactive waste management R&D

Radioactive waste characterization and analysis Current status of waste storage

Temporary storage of solid waste on site of Fukushima Daiichi

* NDF, "Technical Strategic Plan 2021," Fig. A10-1, October 29, 2021.

Radioactive waste management R&D

2030 vision: ideal state (to be discussed further)

- 1. A risk level of remaining high-risk radioactive waste considerably reduced
- 2. Rational characterization methodologies established (e.g. statistical methods)
- 3. Discussion on a variety of options for waste disposal can be started

Radioactive waste management R&D Risk reduction of secondary waste from water decontamination

Safe storage of relatively high-risk waste: secondary waste from contaminated water processing

* NDF, "Technical Strategic Plan 2021," Fig. A10-1, October 29, 2021.

(Note) Waste in red was already radiochemically analyzed.

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Extensive analysis of contaminated water treatment sludge

Sludge stored at "D pit"*

The only sample successfully collected

Sedimentation behavior of sludge observed in hot cell due to its high β activity

Visual observation of sludge particle

SEM image and points of elemental analysis

* TEPCO, "Report on stabilization of slurry and sludge," 25 July 2017.

Radioactive waste management R&D Risk reduction of secondary waste from water decontamination

Study on storage methods: evaluate radiation effect during longterm storage

---- Initial interface

Expansion of solid phase due to generation of hydrogen, observed in simulating experiment using ⁶⁰Co source

Mg/Ca ratio

Synthesizing simulated sludge to investigate physical property of solid phase

Calculation of hydrogen concentration to confirm safety of explosion

Analysis of radioactive waste: information/data required for risk assessment

- ✓ Unique feature of waste originating from the Fukushima Daiichi accident
 - Difficult to predict radioactivity composition including DTM "Difficult-To-Measure" nuclides
 - Enormous amount
 - High dose rate

- Inventory estimation method
- Analysis planning method
- Analysis method for DTMs

Characterizing radioactive waste: analysis and related items for developing waste processing/disposal technologies

Flow of characterization, composite of various items

Important items of characterizing waste

スラッジ

Radioactive waste management R&D Waste characterization and development of statistical methods

Class	Sample			Number		Class Sample				Numbe
Rubble Reactor building	Reactor building		Concrete, metal,			Contaminated	Reactor building	Unit #1	Accumulated	3
	Unit #1	precipitate inside	49	49	water		Unit #1, PCV condensate	Accumulated	1	
		PCV, others					Unit #2 including PCV,	Accumulated	7	
		Unit #2	Concrete, plugging	46				Torus	Accumulated	<u> </u>
			inside TIP, others					Unit #3 including PCV	Accumulated	5
		Unit #3	Concrete, others	16				Unit #4	Accumulated	1
Turbine building	Unit #4	Concrete, metal,	14			Turbine building	Unit #1	Accumulated	7	
	Turking building	11.5.#1	otners					Unit #2	Accumulated	4
	Turbine building	Unit #1	Sludge, others	9				Unit #3	Accumulated	4
		Unit #2	Sludge	3				Unit #4	Accumulated	1
		Unit #3	Sludge	2			Waste building	Unit #1–4	Accumulated	4
		Unit #4	Sludge	1			Centralized waste			
	Waste building	Unit #1	Sludge	1			treatment facility	Process main	Accumulated	17
Centraliz		Unit #2	Sludge	1				Incineration	Accumulated	16
		Unit #3	Sludge	1			Treatment system	Decontamination device	Processed	3
		Unit #4	Sludge	2				Cs adsorption (KURION)	Processed	16
	Centralized waste treatment facility	Process main	Sludge	5				Cs adsorption (SARRY)	Processed	26
								Cs adsorption (SARRY II)	Processed	6
R		Incineration	Sludge	3				ALPS	Processed	51
	Rubble outside	Unit #1	Concrete	6				Evaporation	Processed	3
		Unit #3	Concrete	6				Reverse osmosis	Processed	2
		Unit #4	Concrete	6		Secondary	ALDS corios	Iron precipitation	Slurry	2
	Rubble stored	Vessel #1	Concrete	7			ALFSSELLES	Carbonate precipitation	Slurry	10
		Vessel #2	Concrete	7		waste from		Adsorbort	Activ carbon	2
		Vessel #3	Concrete	1		treatment		Adsorbent	Titopoto	2
Combustible	ole Incinerated ash of protective clothes			5		treatment	Decontamination device		Sludge	2
Soil	On premise			13					Sludge	2
Vegetation	Tree cut down Branch, leaf		5			Evaporation		Siurry	4	
-	Living tree	Branch, leaf,	123			Zeolite sandbag		Adsorbent	1	
	U U		-			A				

* As of May 2021.

Radioactive waste management R&D Waste characterization and development of statistical methods

Analysis planning is enforced by integrating international expertise

Calculating effective number of samples using Bayesian statistics as a result of UK collaboration

Radioactive waste processing and disposal Safety of waste processing/disposal

Preparing technology selection for solidification/disposal concept

Examples of basic data related to waste processing

Cementitious solidification criteria for carbonate slurry

 Hietanen et al. (1984), concrete/saline Aggarwal et al. (2000), NRVB Baker et al. (2002), NRVB A Bayliss et al. (1996), NRVB Andersson et al (1983), HCP, mortar Aggarwal et al. (2000), HCP Pointeau et al. (2008), HCP △ Bonhoure et al. (2002), HCP ×Sarott et al. (1992), HCP/diffusion Aggarwal et al. (2000), CSH Noshita et al. (2001), CSH ANDRA (2005), CSH 3 months ONoshita et al. (2001), AFm, AFt Aggarwal et al. (2000), ettringite Noshita et al. (2001), hydrogarnet Wieland (2014), AFm Wieland (2014), CSH

Example of basic data on disposal; Distribution coefficient of iodine for cementitious material

Hydrogen generation "G-value" from iron slurry

Radioactive waste processing and disposal Knowledge-base

A database, "FRAnDLi" is widely available for researchers involved in radioactive waste and decommissioning R&D

https://frandli-db.jaea.go.jp/FRAnDLi/

Example of contents; plot and tables (with CSV download)

Analysis data and related methodologies will be integrated to knowledge base for sustainable decommissioning activities

 To prepare for future use of data with reliability.

Radioactive waste processing and disposal Okuma Analysis and Research Center

Okuma Analysis and Research Center

Laboratory -1

- Hot-cell operation has started in October 2022.
- Analysis of low-and-medium-dose radioactive wastes.
- Analysis of ALPS-treated water as third-party institution.

Lab-2 (Pre-construction phase)

- Construction will start soon after the licensing process to be cleared.
- Analysis of high dose samples such as fuel debris.

*The image shows a concrete cells at another JAEA site.

(Source) TEPCO website, https://www.tepco.co.jp/en/decommission/progress/watertreatment/oceanrelease/index-e.html

Disposal of ALPS-treated water Third-party analysis at JAEA Okuma Research and Analysis Center

Waste sample is pretreated in Iron Cell Room/GB Room/Fume Hood Rooms depending on surface dose rate. ALPS treated water sample is pretreated in Fume Hood Rooms.
 Sample flows are separated to prevent cross contamination.

Disposal of ALPS-treated water Third-party analysis at JAEA Okuma Research and Analysis Center

Preparation is ongoing for reliable analysis with proper measurement methods for each nuclides

Measurement of tritium concentration in ALPS treated water

(Pretreatment) Removing impurities that interfere with measurement by distillation

[Measurement] Measuring β radiation from tritium by liquid scintillation counter (LSC)

Example of LSC

Confirmation that the concentration of radioactive substances other than tritium is below the regulatory standard (Cs-137, Sr-90, Tc-99, etc)

[Pretreatment]

Adjusting the target nuclide to the state suitable for the measurement by operation such as separation

Ex. Separating target nuclides by operation such as solid-phase extraction that absorbs specific substance to resin

Fume Hood

[Measurement]

Measuring nuclides by equipment suitable for each nuclide Ex.Cs-137:Ge semiconductor detector

Ge semiconductor detector

ICP-MS

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5. Contribution to Fukushima reconstruction

A pilot study of Fukushima Institute for Research, Education and Innovation (F-REI): Long-term tracing research of Fukushima ecosystem (Long-term ecological research: LTER)

- Long-term ecological research with the use of radioactive materials released by the 1F accident and stable isotopes in the Fukushima ecosystem as environmental tracers
- Field study for a long-term ecological research in a watershed scale with a few 10 km square (installation of study field of long-term ecological research)
- Assessment of impact of human activities on the biogeochemical cycle and biological community in the study field of long-term ecological research

Contribution to Fukushima reconstruction Collaboration with local stakeholders

Working with local industry partners

Radiation monitoring drone with visualization^{*1} Unmanned ship for monitoring and sampling

Sensor for polluted water leakage

Education and training for young generation

Training courses for high-school

*1 Y. Sato et. al., J Nucl. Sci. Technol. 2020; 57: 734–744. This system was developed jointly with Chiyoda Technol Corp..

Local events

▲ Nara-SUN-Fes 2021 exhibition ▲

▲ Open house ▲

Fukushima Research Conference (FRC)

▲ FRC participants

Workshop

Annual conference in Fukushima

▲ Presentation by JAEA staff

▲ Panel session

Poster session ►

Future conferences

Workshop on Mission H :

- Matching needs and solutions
- Promotion for Japan-UK joint research program
- FY2022 debriefing meeting

Working together for the future of Fukushima!

International Topical Workshop on Fukushima Decommissioning Research

JAEA's platform for fundamental research on decommissioning

Thank you very much for your attention.

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