

Mayors for a Nuclear Power Free Japan

Co-Representatives:

Mayor Sakurai Katsunobu (Minamisoma City, Fukushima Prefecture)

Mayor Mikami Hajime (Kosai City, Shizuoka Prefecture)

Mayor Murakami Tatsuya (Tokai Village, Ibaraki Prefecture) Secretary-General: Uehara Hiroko  
(Former Mayor of Kunitachi City, Tokyo)

18 June, 2012

Prime Minister Noda Yoshihiko,

### **Objection to Decision to Restart the Ohi Nuclear Power Plant.**

On March 14, representatives of Mayors for a Nuclear Power Free Japan met with Senior Vice Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Yanagisawa Mitsuyoshi, to request that the decision of local municipalities and residents in regards to the reactivation of the Ohi nuclear power plant is not forcibly hastened, and that full attention is given to procedures in regards to local consensus formation.

However, despite the fact that the Japanese Government has adopted a platform of moving away from reliance on nuclear energy, no standards, procedures or road map have been set out for achieving this. Furthermore, under such conditions, and without the agreement of local residents, a Cabinet meeting was held on June 16 whereby it was officially decided to restart the Ohi Nuclear Power Plant – a decision which is sincerely regrettable.

Mayors for a Nuclear Power Free Japan, with members from 35 prefectures throughout the country aiming to create communities without reliance on nuclear energy, strongly objects this decision.

1. Restarting the nuclear power plants before the establishment of the Nuclear Regulatory Agency with only provisional safety standards dismisses citizens' concerns regarding the safety of nuclear power plants.
2. Given the situation of the Fukushima nuclear accident, it is not sufficient to restart nuclear power plants with only the agreement of the municipality where the plant is directly located. Measures should also be taken to obtain the agreement of local residents within a 100 kilometer radius of the nuclear power plant.
3. It is too hasty to reactivate the nuclear power plants while investigation into the causes of the Fukushima Nuclear Disaster and the responsibility of concerned parties remains unresolved.
4. While the conditions of those Fukushima Prefecture residents affected by the disaster is worsening, policy regarding aid remains unclear.