Prime minister Mr. ABE Shinzo Ehime Prefecture Governor Mr NAKAMURA Tokihiro

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Proposal Regarding the Restarting of the Shikoku Electric Power Company Ikata Nuclear Power Plant Unit 3

The Shikoku electric power company is aiming to restart as the Ikata nuclear power plant unit 3 (located in Ikata town, Ehime prefecture). On October 6th, the Japanese Government's Nuclear Disaster Prevention Council, which is chaired by Prime minister Shinzo Abe, approved the evacuation plan for citizens living near the Ikata nuclear power plant unit 3 as "detailed and logical". Prime minister Abe has stated that it is a responsibility of the government to protect the lives, health, and property of citizens in the case of a nuclear disaster.

However, the Ikata nuclear power plant's geographical location is quite particular being on the eastern end of Sadamisaki peninsular the longest and narrowest peninsular in Japan. In light of this the following concerns have been raised regarding the evacuation plan in question.

- 1. About 5,000 people live on the west side of Ikata nuclear power plant. In case of a leak of radioactive substances, it would become impossible for those people to using the road that passes close to the nuclear power plant to evacuate to the east side of the plant. According to the current plan, if this happens, those people will evacuate to Oita prefecture by ferry. However the basic transportation for this has yet to be ensured or planned thoroughly with the ferry and the bus operators.
- 2. If this area were hit by a "complex disaster" such as the combination of a nuclear disaster, an earthquake and a Tsunami, people will be unable to evacuate as the roads will get cut off and the ports will also be damaged. These citizens will be left with not other option that but to evacuate indoors, however, there are only 4 shelter facilities to the west of the nuclear power plant that have ventilation facilities that can remove radioactive substances. These facilities can only accommodate 470 people.
- The person in charge of disaster management in Yawatahama city, which is located adjacent to lkata town, says it's not possible for us to predict how congested the roads would become in case of a complex disaster.
- 4. About 50 elderly people live in a nursing home for the elderly that is located 20km away from the nuclear power plant. A lot of them are unable to walk on their own, therefore, should they have to evacuate by boat, they will need transportation to get to the boat. However, there is no prospect for such transportation to be available. Furthermore, Oita prefecture, where they will be evacuated to, does not have a facility that is ready to accept the elderly evacuees.

If the Government's Nuclear Disaster Prevention Council approved the evacuation plan, while being aware of the problems mentioned above, we must question whether the Japanese government is really thinking about the safety and the lives of the citizens or taking its responsibility seriously.

The Government's Nuclear Disaster Prevention Council decided to hold a nuclear disaster drill in November, at the Iketa nuclear power plant area.

Consent from the Prefecture Governor Nakamura must be obtained before the Ikata nuclear power plant unit 3 can be restarted. We urge strongly that the decision must be made only after the nuclear disaster drill in November and when all the issues listed above are properly resolved.

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