

Chronology of BNFL MOX Falsification Scandal

(Compiled by Green Action, Japan, as of 2000.1.11: amsmith@gol.com)

August 20	BNFL first discovers MOX pellet diameter data falsification
September 10	BNFL reports falsification to NII
September 11	BNFL notifies MHI by fax about falsification (MHI doesn't receive this notice until September 13)
September 13	KEPCO makes application to ANRE for Imported Fuel Assembly Inspection
September 13	MHI notifies KEPCO about data falsification
September 14	KEPCO notifies ANRE, Fukui Prefecture about falsification
September 14	Independent article makes public T3 data falsification
September 16	KEPCO starts investigation into falsification - continues until 26
September 21	KEPCO holds press conference to talk about investigation (notes that no falsification could be found for Takahama Unit 4 fuel)
September 21	Letter from NII to Japanese Embassy in London
September 24	KEPCO interim report on BNFL MOX data falsification
September 28	ANRE and KEPCO address Fukui legislature about falsification
October 1	T4 fuel arrives in Takahama
October 20	GA and MNK submit their analysis of data to KEPCO, Fukui Prefecture, ANRE, NSC claiming that T4 fuel has also been falsified
October 20	KEPCO is informed by BNFL that NII believes that the data for lot P783 is suspicious, but because BNFL believes otherwise, KEPCO decides not to notify ANRE
November 1	KEPCO releases final report on BNFL MOX data falsification
November 2	NSC and ANRE address Fukui legislature (KEPCO final report OK)
November 8	Letter from NII to Japanese Embassy (is kept secret until December 15)
November 10	GA and MNK meet with ANRE officials in Tokyo (ANRE denies any falsification of Takahama Unit 4 Fuel)
November 19	Court action is taken to prevent the loading of T4 fuel (Osaka)
November 19	ANRE and KEPCO address Takahama legislature (T4 fuel is safe)
November 19	Fukui Governor announces he will make decision about T4 after Dec.17
December 2	ANRE starts Imported Fuel Assembly Inspection
December 8	Official from Japanese Embassy in London contacts NII
December 8	NII informs Japanese Embassy about lot P783
December 9 (morning)	ANRE receives information about P783 from NII
December 9	ANRE asks KEPCO to check with BNFL about P783
December 9	Guardian article about unreleased NII report is published
December 10	Sumiko Shimizu asks questions about Takahama Unit 4 falsification in Upper House Economic and Industry Committee

December 10	KEPCO receives word from BNFL confirming that NII believes that data for P783 is "irregular" but BNFL insists that the data for P783 is "not irregular"
December 11	KEPCO submits a report to ANRE stating P783 data is not falsified
December 11	ANRE receives chart of P783 falsification from KEPCO via BNFL
December 11	ANRE instructs KEPCO to send a delegation to BNFL to carry out a further investigation into P783
December 12	KEPCO informs Fukui Prefecture about its report to ANRE about P783
December 12	KEPCO sends delegation to BNFL to conduct further investigation
December 12	ANRE officials meet with NII officials in UK
December 14	Economy and Industry Committee asks for the release of NII letter
December 15	November 8th letter from NII to Japanese Embassy is released
December 15	BNFL finds one lot of T4 fuel has falsified data (P814)
December 16	BNFL notifies KEPCO about lot P814
December 16	KEPCO decides not to use T4 fuel

KEPCO

MHI

BNFL

ANRE

NII

- Kansai Electric Power Company
- Mitsubishi Heavy Industries
- British Nuclear Fuels
- Agency of Natural Resources and Energy
- Nuclear Installations Inspectorate