

Electric power and renewable energy outlook and challenges for 2015

December 19, 2014

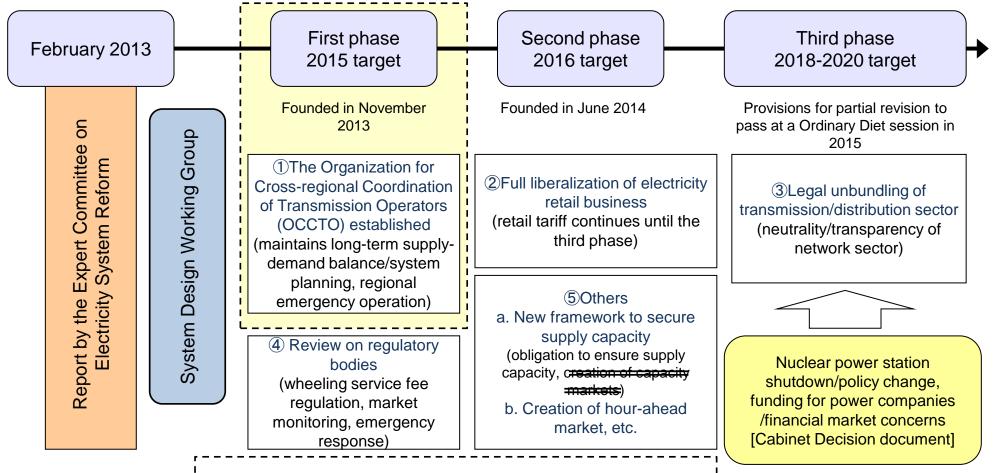
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This report covers:



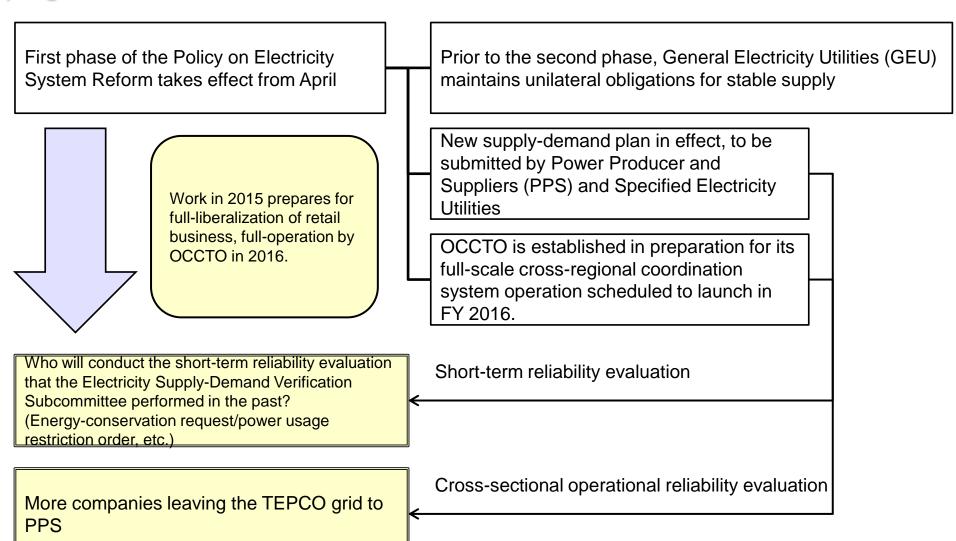
- 1. Electric power system reform and tight supply-demand ratio
- 2. Energy feed-in tariff system
- 3. Future Work

1. Electric power system reform and tight supply-demand ratio (1) Current status



Delay in resuming operation at nuclear power stations, aging nuclear power stations' extension of operation, business stability related to electricity charges

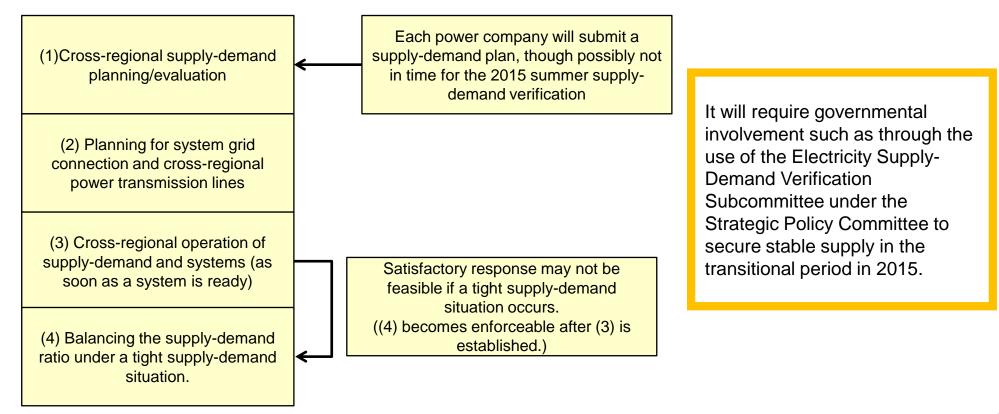
1. Electric power system reform and tight supply-demand ratio (2) Agenda for FY 2015



1. Electric power system reform and tight supply-demand ratio (3) Responsibility of OCCTO

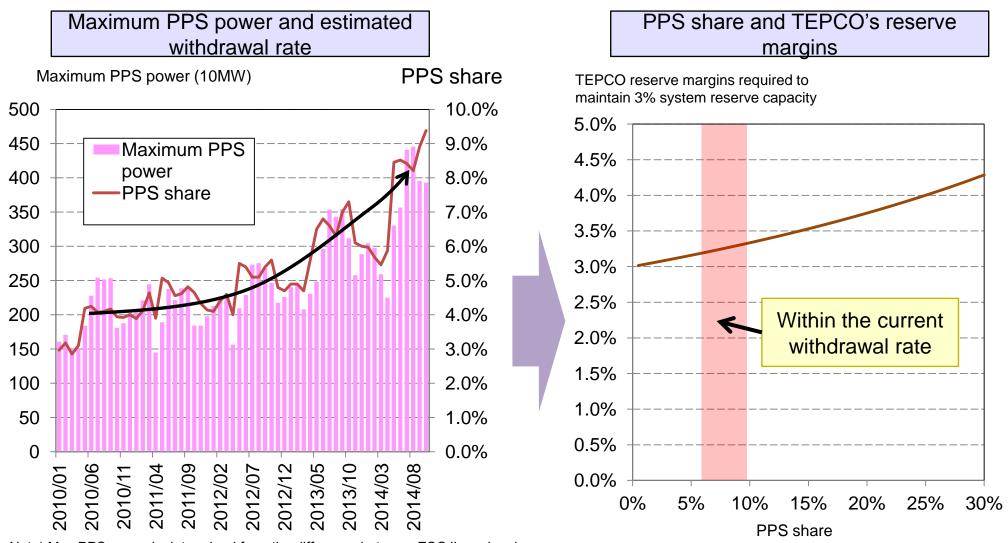


The Organization for Cross-regional Coordination of Transmission Operators (OCCTO), which is scheduled to launch in April 2015, will handle the following: (1)cross-regional supply-demand planning/evaluation, (2) planning for system grid connection and cross-regional power transmission lines, (3) cross-regional operation of supply-demand and systems (as soon as a system is ready), and (4) balancing the supply-demand ratio under a tight supply-demand situation. Incorporating the working mechanism of the current Electric Power System Council of Japan (ESCJ), which will establish an organizational structure to accomplish the above-mentioned responsibilities. It will also handle rule-making on a) how to utilize interconnecting grids, b) best formation of grid connecting facilities, c) best way to connect systems, d) procedures necessary for emergency response under disaster. A new management system for system grid connection will also be constructed.



1. Electric power system reform and tight supply-demand ratio (4) PPS demand and reserve capacity within the TEPCO grid





Note) Max PPS power is determined from the difference between ESCJ's regional max power and the daily max power in TEPCO's "Electricity Forecast," represented as the maximum value for the relevant months. Source) ESCJ *Electricity Supply-Demand Review* and TEPCO *Electricity Forecast*

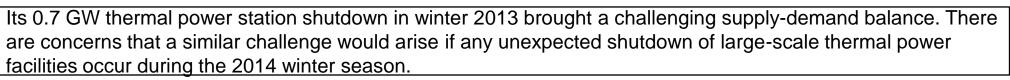
1. Electric power system reform and tight supply-demand ratio (5) Post-disaster countermeasures for summer/winter months

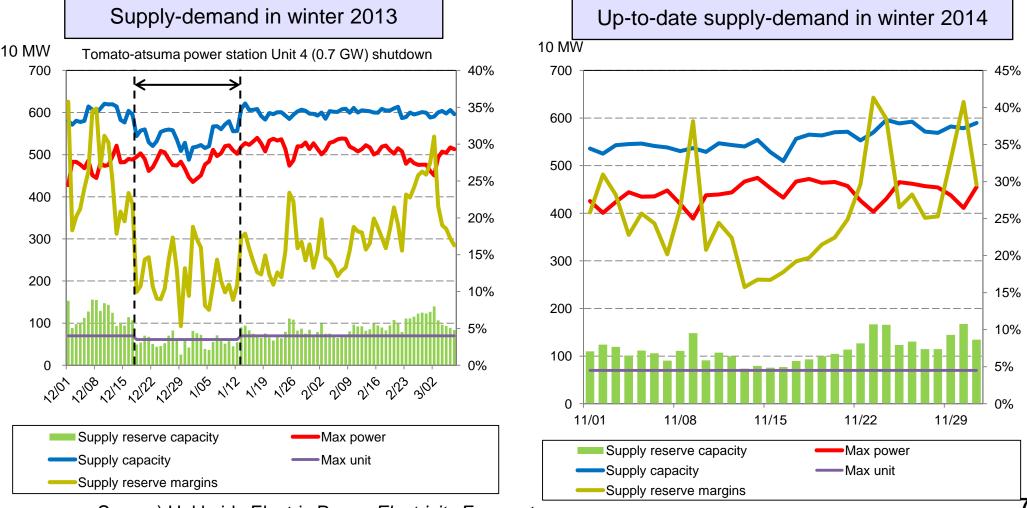


While an unplanned shutdown of thermal power stations in the summer of 2014 led to concern that the reserve margins would dip below 3%, a cool summer avoided a supply shortage. Ongoing situations that are susceptible to a tighter supply-demand ratio if an unplanned interruption occurs at thermal power stations need to be noted, along with concerns regarding lower consumer awareness of energy-saving, since main the measures recently focus on suppliers meeting the demand rather than on energy conservation efforts by consumers.

	Coverage area	Energy-conservation request	Events
Summer 2011	Tokyo Electric Power, Tohoku Electric Power	Electricity usage restriction	Tohoku Electric Power experienced a tight supply-demand ratio due to the operation shutdown of hydropower which generated 1 GW, after heavy rainfall in Niigata and Fukushima on 8/8.
Winter 2011	Kansai Electric Power, Kyushu Electric Power	Energy-conservation request with a target figure	Kyushu Electric Power experienced a tight supply-demand ratio due to a 2.295 GW interruption from the Shin-oita thermal power station accident on 2/3. Shikoku Electric Power experienced a tight supply-demand ratio due to a record-breaking cold wave on 2/2.
Summer 2012	Hokkaido Electric Power, mid-western Japan	Energy-conservation request with a target figure	Hokkaido Electric Power experienced a tight supply-demand ratio due to a record-breaking late-summer heat waves on 9/17 and 9/18.
Winter 2012	Hokkaido Electric Power	Energy-conservation request with a target figure	Unplanned thermal station shutdown at Hokkaido Electric Power reduced its reserve margins.
Summer 2013	Whole area	General energy-conservation request	Reserve margins decline due to heat wave at Kyushu Electric Power
Winter 2013	Hokkaido Electric Power	General energy-conservation request	Tomato-atsuma power station Unit 4 shutdown at Hokkaido Electric Power reduced its reserve margins.
Summer 2014	Whole area	General energy-conservation request (target figure was not established while there was concern that the reserve margin in mid-western Japan would be under 3%)	(Mid-western Japan saved from a tight supply-demand ratio thanks to cold summer.)
Winter 2014	Hokkaido Electric Power	General energy-conservation request	6

1. Electric power system reform and tight supply-demand ratio (6) Supply-demand ratio of Hokkaido Electric Power

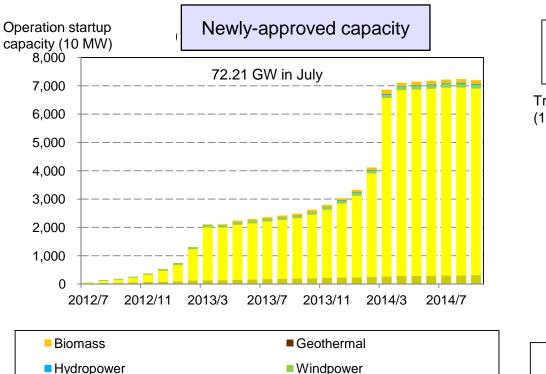




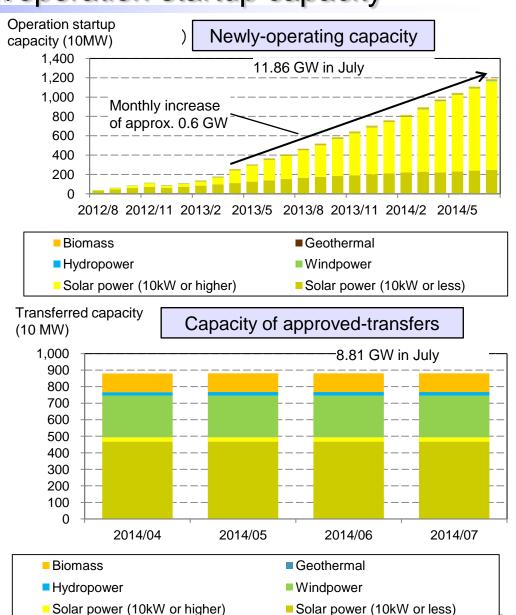
Source) Hokkaido Electric Power Electricity Forecast

2. Energy feed-in tariff system (1) Changes in FIT facility approval/operation startup capacity

As of July 2014, including the amount switched from the previous RPS system, the FIT power source in operation totals 20.66 GW, with an approved capacity of 81.01 GW. Especially, approved capacity reached close to the total maximum daily power from 9 power companies during the Golden Week holiday (88.25 GW on 5/4/2014)



Solar power (10kW or higher)

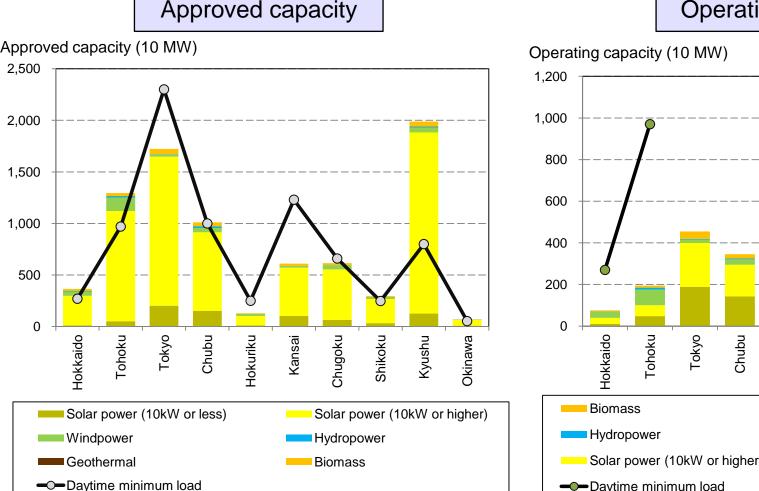


Source) Information disclosure website on Energy FIT system, Agency for Natural Resources and Energy

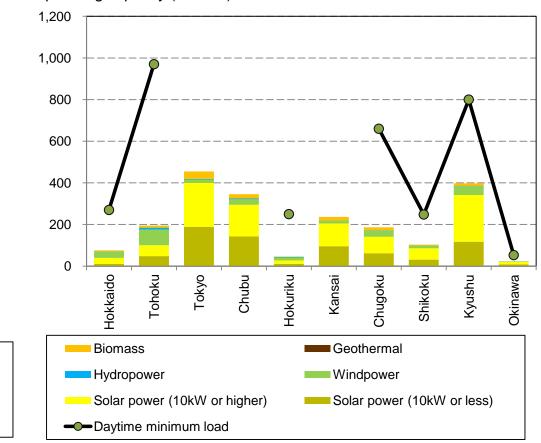
Solar power (10kW or less)

2. Energy feed-in tariff system (2)Approved/in-operation capacity by region (as of July 2014)

Both capacities for approved and in-operation facilities show significant regional disparities. Kyushu Electric Power reported approvals that substantially exceed minimum daytime load.



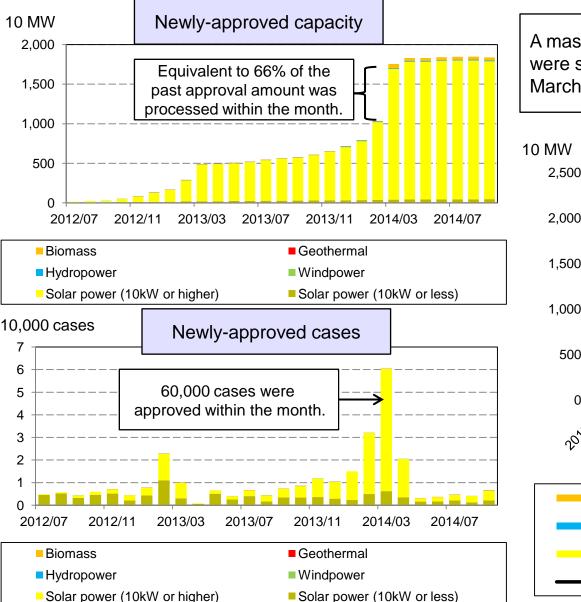
Operating capacity



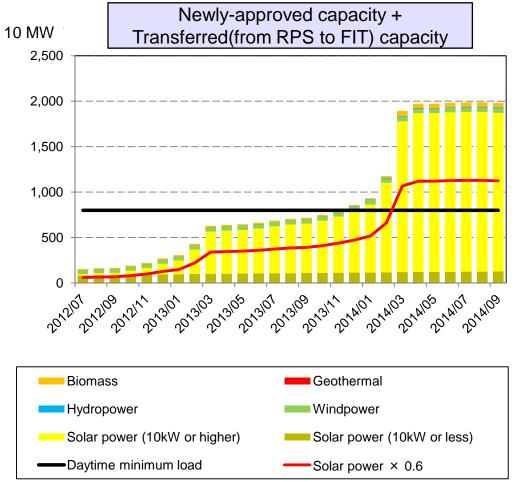
Source) Information disclosure website on Energy FIT system, Agency for Natural Resources and Energy

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2. Energy feed-in tariff system(3) Changes in approved FIT capacity in the Kyushu Electric Power grid



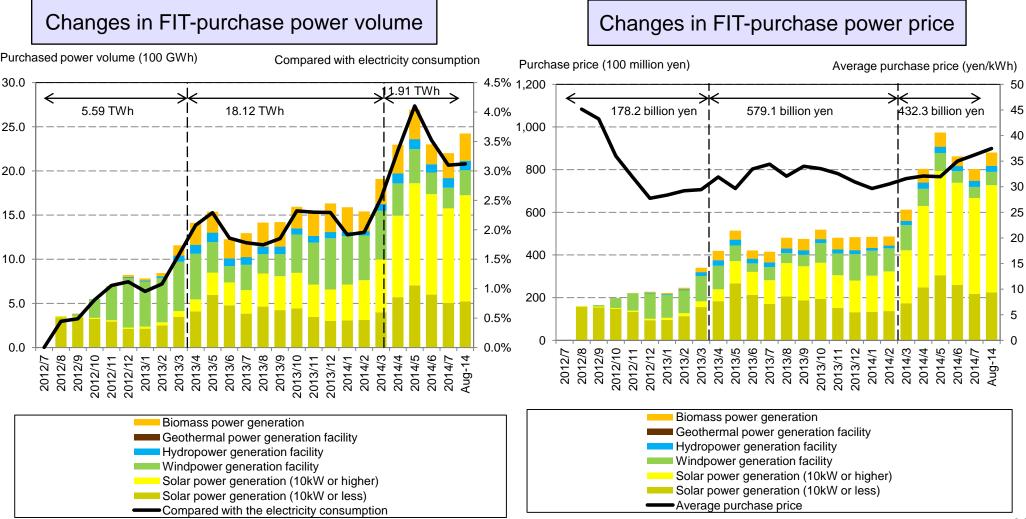
A massive amount of last-minute approval applications were submitted before the purchase price change in March 2014.



Source) Information disclosure website on Energy FIT system, Agency for Natural Resources and Energy

2. Energy feed-in tariff system (4) Changes in FIT purchase power volume and price

Following the start of the new program, FIT-purchased power drastically increased. The total purchase price in fiscal 2013 was 579.1 billion yen, with a projected total for 2014 that is almost certainly to exceed 1 trillion yen.



Source) Information disclosure website on Energy FIT system, Agency for Natural Resources and Energy



3. Future Work (1) Immediate challenges related to an energy FIT system

[Future challenges]

- Verification of renewable energy power generation connectible volume (WG on Grid Connection of Renewable Energy)
- Positioning a FIT-power source in the electric system reform (WG on System Design) 0
- FIT system operation review (New and Renewable Energy Subcommittee)
- Best mix search for 2030 (connectible volume + additional measures) (Strategic Policy Committee)

New and Renewable Energy Subcommittee	WG on Grid Connection of Renewable Energy	WG on System Design
 Improving FIT system operation Bidding system adopted for enhancing electricity transmission/distribution facilities Understanding procurement and avoidable costs Promotional policy based on each renewable energy feature 	 Basic concept in calculating connectible volume (short-term) Basic concept in calculating connectible volume (mid-to-long term) 	 Special provisions in the transition to an electricity balancing program with full liberalization of the electricity retail market Review of reserve capacity with an expanding FIT power source
 Suppression/control of output (advail Cross-regional grid connection use 		

* Best cost sharing methods and priority on enforcing upper-connection for cross-regional grid links and applying cross-regional grid connection, should be discussed.

Future Work (2) Remaining issues



Renewable energy generation policies

Large-scale introduction of renewable energy generation will have different cost effectiveness depending on the overall energy mix structure, such as improved electricity supply-demand substitutability (electrical-heating, etc.) and flexible supply capacity procurement.

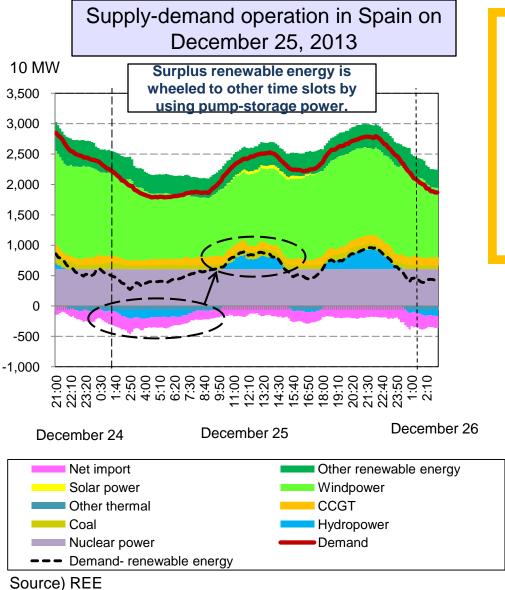
Can the ongoing final phase fully attain liberalization and cohesion of the energy industry?

- Cross-regional grid use: usage plans with high probability are being prioritized (use-it-or-loseit). Is the mechanism to transmit deviated renewable energy in a specific region to another region consistent with respect to the system frame?
- Construction of cross-regional grid connections: present cost is principally borne by the party giving rise to the construction needs. How should cost be shared when a construction project is initiated by governmental policy?
- Installation of storage battery: FIT-electricity is purchased by electricity resale businesses, but if the installation is prompted by governmental measures for surplus wheeling, the resale business becomes the beneficiary of subsidies, posing a concern for fair competition.
- Improved electricity demand substitutability: should flexible electricity usage, such as electricheating and electric automobiles, be promoted?
- Ensuring flexible supply capability: what types of funding should facility upgrades for thermal power station be provided? Very few examples exist in the world of a system to procure reserve capacity responsively.

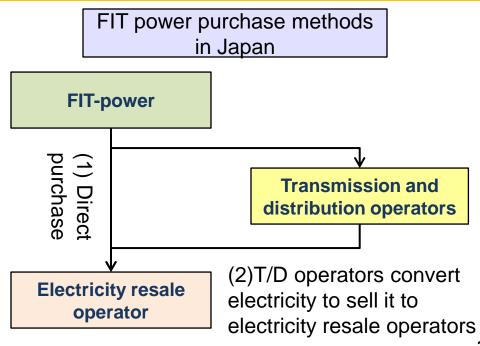
^{*} While time limitations exist due to meeting the climate change target, thorough discussions must be conducted.

[Reference] Surplus wheeling of FIT electricity



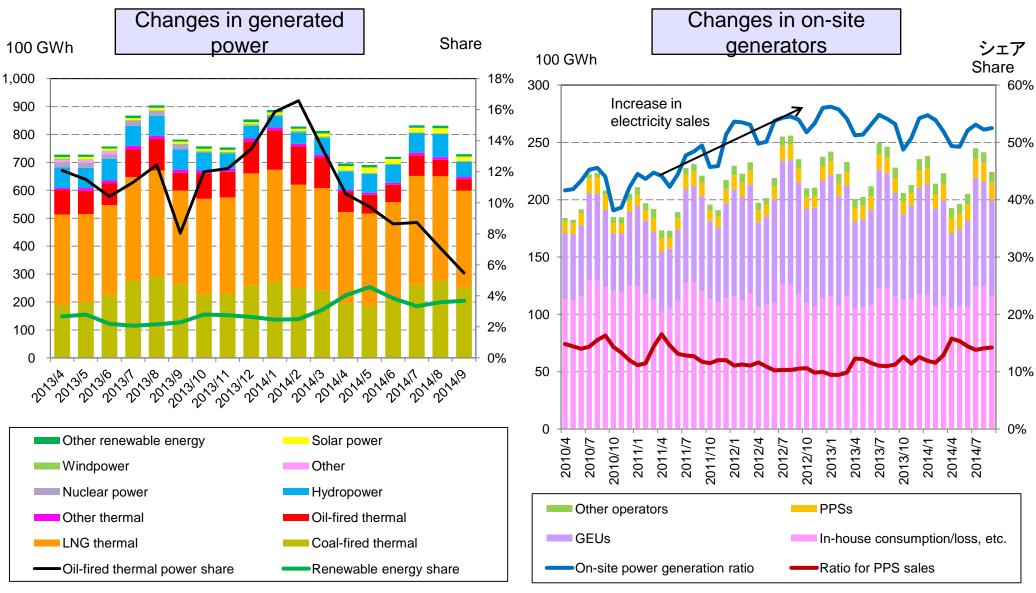


As solar power generation expands, surplus supply may restrict FIT-power introduction especially during the low-load period, such as GW. While energy storage, such as pump-storage power generation and storage batteries, are often viewed as a promising solution, in terms of electricity system reform, care has to be taken since the electricity resale business may heavily represent such operations.



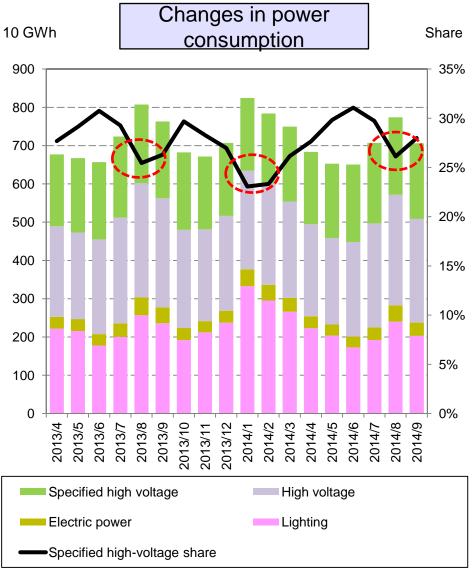
[Reference] Generated power/on-site generation



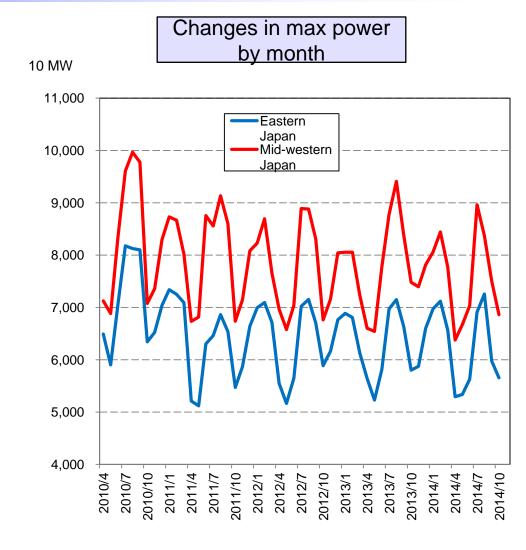


Source) compiled based on *Electric Power Investigation Statistics*, Agency for Natural Resources and Energy

[Reference] Power consumption/Max power



Source) compiled based on *Electric Power Investigation Statistics,* Agency for Natural Resources and Energy



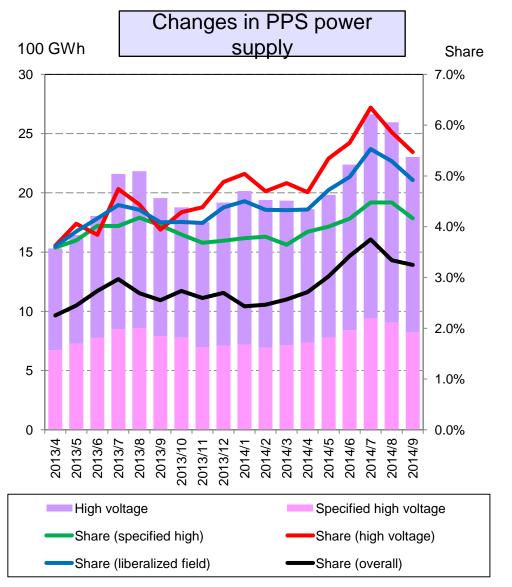
Note) Maximum monthly figure from the total daily max power from companies

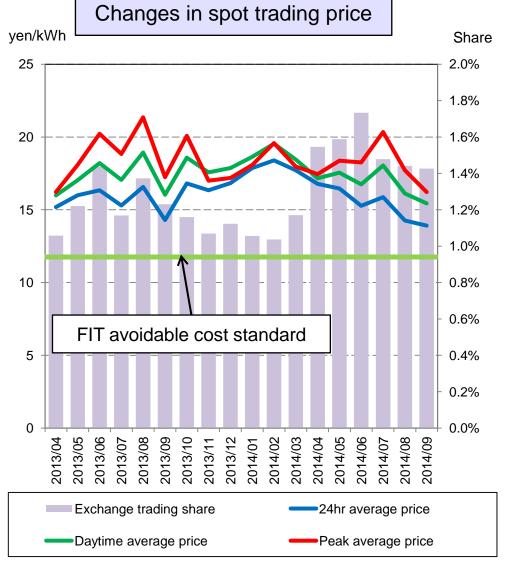
Source) compiled based on *Electricity Supply-Demand Review*, Electric Power System Council of Japan



[Reference] PPS/Spot trading



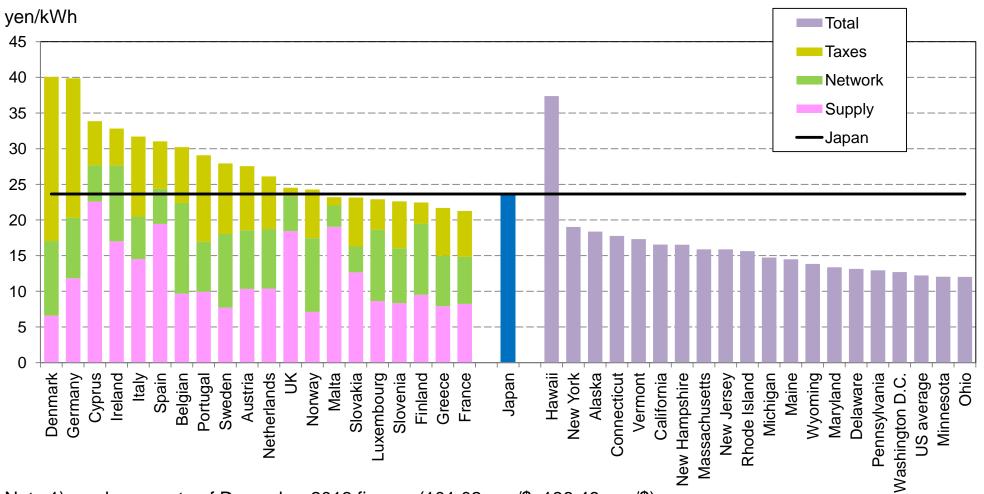




Source) compiled based on *Electric Power Investigation Statistics*, Agency for Natural Resources and Energy

Source) Japan Electric Power Exchange (JEPX)

[Reference] Japan/US/Europe electricity price comparison (2013)



Note 1) exchange rate of December 2013 figures (101.02 yen/\$, 136.46 yen/\$)

Note 2) European taxes include renewable energy generation fees

Source) Eurostat (power consumption 2,500kWh to 5,000kWh) in Europe, EIA "Electric Power Annual" (average electric fee income) in US, and IEA "Energy Prices and Taxes" in Japan.