

Enhanced Off-site Monitoring – Applying Lessons from Fukushima

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ABSTRACT

In the immediate aftermath of the Fukushima Daiichi accident, reliable radiation exposure data for making critical decisions was lacking. Many stakeholders with business interests in Japan needed to quickly develop and administer an emergency response solution that consolidated myriad of often conflicting data collected across multiple points and times into meaningful and credible information on which to make decisions about public and employee safety as well as environmental decisions.

What was found was an infrastructure and emergency response processes unprepared to respond and meet the basic requirements for post-accident assessment of the nature and extent of off-site radiological conditions. Through the experience with the Fukushima response and in subsequent post-Fukushima work, an understanding emerged about the real requirements and specific gaps that can exist for data generation, analysis, and sharing in a post-accident environment.

- What radiological monitoring infrastructure is required to be in place?
- What methods are needed to process and validate data?
- What decision support tools are needed to interpret data and take action?

Knowing the above information this multi-unit site performed a gap analysis of their radiological emergency response capabilities to the elements that should have been in place prior to the Fukushima Daiichi accident. This site chose to implement a program to enhance off-site radiological monitoring capabilities along with possible enhancements to their day to day environmental monitoring. This presentation will outline the lessons learned from Fukushima, summarize the enhancements currently being implemented at the site for accident assessment, and highlight the future improvements to their routine Radiological Environmental Monitoring program.

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