

No. 11-083

May 16, 2011

NRC EXITS MONITORING MODE FOR JAPANESE NUCLEAR EMERGENCY; CONTINUES TO SUPPORT U.S. GOVERNMENT EFFORTS

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission announced today it will exit "monitoring mode" and transition its response to the Japanese nuclear emergency from its 24-hour Operations Center to its Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation (NRR).

The NRC activated its headquarters-based Operations Center on March 11, 2011, in response to the events at Fukushima Daiichi in Japan. Since that time, staff from throughout the agency supported the U.S. government's response, including staff dispatched to the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo.

"The conditions at the Japanese reactors are slowly stabilizing. As conditions have continued to improve and the Japanese continue to implement their recovery plan, the NRC has determined that it is time to adjust our response," said Executive Director for Operations Bill Borchardt.

A team in NRR will assume the responsibility of supporting the NRC staff members in Japan, the U.S. Embassy, and will coordinate response efforts with federal and industry partners.

###

News releases are available through a free *listserv* subscription at the following Web address: <u>http://www.nrc.gov/public-involve/listserver.html</u>. The NRC homepage at <u>www.nrc.gov</u> also offers a SUBSCRIBE link. E-mail notifications are sent to subscribers when news releases are posted to NRC's website.