

FIRE INSURANCE FOR WIND-POWER GENERATION OPERATORS AND RENEWABLE ENERGY REVIVES AILING FUKUSHIMA

Fire Insurance for Wind-Power Generation Operators



Nipponkoa Insurance Co. and Sompo Japan Insurance Inc. launched fire insurance for wind-power generation business operators on February 1, 2014. It includes a newly developed optional insurance policy that covers the cost of investigating the causes of trouble and breakdowns, and inspection for the prevention of similar incidents.

Since Japan's national introduction of the renewable energy feed-in-tariff (FIT) scheme in July 2012, renewable energy use for power generation has been growing significantly. However, as more than 90 percent of power-generating facilities certified by the Japanese government have been for solar power generation so far, it is important to foster more balance in sources of renewable energy.

Losses from trouble and breakdowns of wind power equipment can be expensive, and problems tend to recur. The companies hope to support more stable management of the wind power industry by providing insurance and risk management services.

Renewable Energy Revives Ailing Fukushima



Tsuchiyu Onsen, a hot spring town in Fukushima prefecture, established a firm called "*Genki Up Tsuchiyu*" (Re-energizing Tsuchiyu) on October 1, 2012. The firm was established to rebuild and revitalize the ailing spa resort town. After the company receives survey results from the Ministry of the Environment, it will start generating geothermal binary power at its 16th spring source in 2014.

As a result of the earthquake damage caused by the Great East Japan Earthquake in 2011 and rumors about the dangers of radiation from Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant, the town is in danger of losing local economic vitality, with 5 inns having closed down and 1 inn having suspended operations.

The company aims to revitalize the town by developing renewable energy using river water and heat sources that are abundant for Tsuchiyu Onsen. They are also planning to rebuild the community by utilizing small hydroelectricity generation.

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