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Nuclear agency criticized for lack of explanation

Municipalities and fisheries cooperatives in Fukushima Prefecture have criticized the government for failing to explain the release of radioactive water into the ocean from the troubled nuclear power plant.

The plant's operator, Tokyo Electric Power Company, on Monday began releasing low-level radioactive water into the sea from the Fukushima Daiichi plant.

On Tuesday, the federation of fisheries cooperative associations in Fukushima notified the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency of its concern. It asked the agency to explain the possible impact on marine products.

The agency's team in Fukushima said it had not heard from local people and had no plans to provide an explanation to the prefecture.

The team was sent to Fukushima to strengthen the provision of information to residents after the troubles at the plant began.

The government of Iwaki City, where Fukushima's largest fisheries port is located, and fisheries cooperatives say people are increasingly worried.

It says the agency is responsible for responding to nuclear accidents and needs to explain many issues but has not contacted them.

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