

The Crippled Fukushima Daiichi Plant: TEPCO Shareholders Want Out of Nuclear Power

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A group of shareholders at Tokyo Electric Power Company is demanding the utility withdraw from the business of nuclear power generation. TEPCO operates the crippled Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant.

Shareholders gathered in Tokyo on Wednesday. It was their first annual meeting since the utility was effectively placed under government control.

TEPCO Chairman Kazuhiko Shimokobe apologized to shareholders for continuing to cause concern and inconvenience more than 2 years after the nuclear disaster.

The utility has been slow to clean up the Fukushima Daiichi plant and continues to report leaks of radiation-contaminated water.

TEPCO President Naomi Hirose asked shareholders to support the firm's plan to restart its nuclear reactors. He said management will quickly improve safety and strengthen operations.

The shareholders' group is demanding the firm decommission all of its nuclear reactors. They also want more detailed disclosure of information, and cuts in remuneration to board members.

One shareholder said decommissioning the reactors would be a way for TEPCO to compensate survivors of the nuclear disaster.

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