Press Release

150+ companies welcome Japanese Government’s 2050 Net Zero Emissions Target and release proposals on Japan’s Energy Mix calling for a renewable electricity target of 50% by 2030

Tokyo, Japan, October 26, 2020 – Today, Japan’s Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga has announced Japan’s new target to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050.

In response to this, the Japan Climate Leaders Partnership (JCLP), a coalition of more than 150 companies with a sense of urgency on climate change, has issued a welcome statement. In addition, JCLP has also published "the Proposals for the Review of the Long-Term Energy Supply and Demand Outlook (Energy Mix)", indicating a key milestone for achieving the 2050 net zero emissions goal.

Behind the recommendations is the industry’s sense of urgency. As markets change rapidly around the world in response to the growing threats from climate change, it is a pressing concern that delays in Japan’s decarbonization policies would reduce the competitiveness of Japanese companies. The 2030 energy mix, the review of which is currently ongoing, affects more than 80% of Japan's greenhouse gas emissions and has significant impacts on Japan’s progress on decarbonization and by extension, its corporate competitiveness.

Against this backdrop, we propose the following.

1. To set a target of 50% renewable energy in the energy mix by 2030.
2. To carry through the phase-out of inefficient coal-fired power plants and to halt the construction of new coal-fired power plants.
3. To review the basic principles to prioritize measures to address environment consideration over economic efficiency in light of climate crisis, and to not label the cost necessary for renewable energy expansion as the "national burden".
4. To introduce measures that enables off-site corporate PPA, and to include investments in power transmission network as an economic recovery measure from the COVID-19.

We will communicate these proposals with policy decision makers.

Following these releases, JCLP will resolutely continue our efforts to decarbonize our own corporate activities, advocate for better policies and raise public awareness, in order to help accelerate the zero-carbon transition.

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Japan Climate Leaders’ Partnership (JCLP) is a coalition of businesses (153 companies as of October 2020) that aims to create a zero-carbon society, built on the idea that decarbonization is essential to economic development. The group’s total sales is 121 trillion JPY (1.1 trillion USD) and electricity demand together amounts to 48 TWh representing 7% of the electricity demand of the industries in Japan.

It was set up in 2009 to encourage the business sector to develop a sound sense of urgency on climate action. The members share a common goal and proactively communicate with policy makers, business peers and the civil society. JCLP remains unique in Japan in that a key focus is policy engagement around actions for decarbonization, aimed at both local and central governments in the country. Since April 2017, JCLP has been The Climate Group’s regional delivery partner on RE100, EP100 and EV100 initiatives in Japan.


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