

HSE Newsletter

The first issue 15th May, 2024

Marubeni Offshore Wind Development Corporation is responsible for the operation and management of offshore wind farms at the ports of Akita and Noshiro. Various HSE(Health, Safety and Environment) activities are being carried out at these sites, and from this year we have decided to publish and introduce these activities in the HSE Newsletter. The first issue introduces the HSE activities for the year 2023.

Activities in 2023

Marubeni
Offshore Wind
Development

Joint rescue drills with the Japan Coast Guard and Fire Department

As the operator and manager of the Akita and Noshiro offshore wind farms, we regard the establishment of a safety system as one of our most important tasks for the safe operation of the project. In addition to efforts to prevent accidents through in-house voluntary training and other measures, we also expect to seek the cooperation of the Akita Coast Guard and local fire-fighting authorities in the event of an accident. In FY2023, a joint rescue drill was conducted in Akita Port with the Japan Coast Guard and Akita City Fire Department. In Noshiro Port, a joint offshore rescue drill was conducted with the Noshiro-Yamamoto Wide-area Municipalities Association Fire Department.

Akita Port: joint rescue drill with Akita Japan Coast Guard and Akita City Fire Department.



The rescue operation was conducted on the assumption that one of the two workers in the offshore wind farm collapsed in the TP. Mobile rescue technicians from the Japan Coast Guard and a rescue team from the Akita Fire Department were transferred to the offshore wind farm by a CTV (personnel carrier: Red Star 2), carried out rescue operations and brought the person requiring rescue down to the CTV. Meanwhile, a helicopter from the Sendai Air Base, District 2, was dispatched to the scene and successfully lifted the rescuers off the CTV and transported them directly to the site.



Noshiro Port: joint offshore rescue drill with the Noshiro-Yamamoto Wide-area Municipalities Association Fire and Rescue Headquarters.



The training was conducted on the assumption that worker B had fallen from a height while two workers A and B were inspecting the TP of an offshore wind farm at the Port of Noshiro. Worker A spinal injury was suspected, and it was difficult to rescue worker A alone, so a rescue call was made. The fire department organised a rescue platoon and an emergency platoon and boarded a CTV to the offshore wind farm to carry out rescue operations.



The training was published in J Rescue (Nov 2023), a magazine specializing in firefighting, disaster prevention and rescue.



○ Safety convention



Akita Offshore Wind Corporation(AOW), the operator of the offshore wind farms at Akita and Noshiro ports, Vestas Japan, which is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the wind turbines, and the Company, held the first safety conference organised by the Company. The aim of the conference was to deepen mutual understanding between the companies and members working at the power station and to create a safer and better site. After presentations from each company on the theme, a session was held on examples of near misses that have occurred in the past, leading to a lively exchange of views.



○ Tsunami evacuation drills



Our operations are always exposed to the risk of tsunamis, as our operations are offshore, and our operations management office is located along the quay. For this reason, we prepared a tsunami evacuation manual and conducted a tsunami evacuation drill based on the assumption that a tsunami warning had been issued. First, the Disaster Prevention and Crisis Management Office of Noshiro City Hall visited the training center to learn about the characteristics of disasters in Noshiro City. Following the earthquake, the Marine Control Room (Central Control Room) in the office contacted the maintenance crews and access vessels (CTVs) performing maintenance work on the offshore wind turbines. After a tsunami warning was issued, the crews headed for the pavilion in Noshiro Park, which serves as an evacuation site. The drill was also attended by local Shimohama residents to promote cooperation.



○ Fire drills, evacuation drills, first aid training



The company's Noshiro Operations and Management Office conducts various types of training in preparation for emergencies. Regular training is conducted for workers who go out to offshore through GWOs and other training programmes, but we also provide as many training opportunities as possible for office staff to maintain their skills.



○ Cleanup work



The company participates in activities such as the Akita Port Simultaneous Clean-Up and leaf clean-ups organized by the city of Noshiro to help clean up and preserve the local area.