

The 2019 International Electricity Summit in Fukuoka Joint Statement

Electric power industry leaders from around the world are committed, in partnership with customers, to lead the clean energy transformation by continuing to reduce carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions in their sector and by bringing electrification to other sectors.

- An expected role of electric utilities as energy infrastructure companies is to seek to ensure “Safety”, as well as to achieve “Energy security,” “Economical efficiency” and “Environment” simultaneously, namely “S+3E.” To achieve this, an “optimal energy structure” and “thorough energy-savings” must be realized based on the characteristics of each energy.
- Although the actions for achieving these “3E” vary depending on the political, social, and economic circumstances of each region, “Environment” among 3E, especially “greenhouse gas reduction,” is increasingly the greatest issue to address not only in Japan, Australia, Canada, European countries and the US but countries all over the world as well.
- The reduction of CO₂ emissions from power sources on the power supply side and the promotion of electrification on the demand side are key to reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the economy.^(*1) Particularly, electrification of the transport sector, which is less electrified, is critical.^(*2) Additionally, the dissemination of electric vehicles (EVs) can enhance resilience.
- The promotion of electrification will lead to progress of energy-savings (efficient use of energy) through the dissemination and expansion of highly efficient equipment such as heat pumps, EVs, etc.
- Furthermore, combined with the progress of digitization (processing and use of big data), the promotion of electrification could contribute to better customer participation and the realization of a safe and comfortable environment.
- With power companies investing in large quantities of renewable energy and the progress of distributed power generation, the electricity flow has changed from one-way – that is, from power sources to demand -- to both ways. In response to this transition, electric utilities need to play a greater role in promoting electrification, including contributions from the network sector that connects power supplies and demand, e.g., optimal system connections of increasing renewable energy sources and state-of-the-art supply and demand management using Internet of Things (IoT).
- To realize a decarbonized society, each region will cooperate to promote electrification and make policy proposals to further enable electrification.

- The International Electricity Summit (IES) agrees to take action in an integrated manner from now on for issues discussed this time, including (i) “infrastructure development for EV dissemination, and integration of standards and technical development through technical cooperation,” and (ii) “research in new business models based on the progress of digitization.”
- After the end of this IES (Fukuoka), each region will formulate a specific action plan for the agreed policies, including (i) and (ii), and discuss an integrated action plan for all the regions at the “Sub-Working Group (SWG)” held before the next IES (Europe).
Furthermore, ideal electrification targets will be considered and discussed at the SWG.

^(*1) Many reports showing future prediction of CO₂ emissions such as the *World Energy Outlook 2018* (IEA) demonstrate a strong correlation between the “reduction of CO₂ emissions” and the “increase in electrification rate.”

^(*2) The global electrification rate (2016 result: final energy consumption base) is 26% in the industrial sector, 1% in the transport sector and 32% in the consumer sector (19% in total).