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Research on Korean Nuclear Ombudsman System for Post Management and Damage Compensation due to Nuclear Facilities Site Selection

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1. Introduction

In Korea, the nuclear power generation is grown technically well. Already, 20 nuclear reactors are operated, and approximate they supply the 40% of the consumption of electric power. This is the driving force of Korean industrial development.

But, at past days the Korean situation was that the intention of residents was neglected in the decision making process of nuclear power plant construction and operation. So, in decision making process, the public opinion was considered restrictively, there was not the actual public participation. Therefore the dissatisfaction of public has been increased continuously, and in Korea, the bad recognition about nuclear power is getting full now.

Accordingly, in this study the voluntary accommodation guarantee method of residents about nuclear facilities is based on damage compensation approach process. So it results in the voluntary accommodation of residents.

Besides, establishing post management institutionally, the dissatisfaction of residents would be dissolved elevating trust of central/local government and enterprise body in order to reduce harmful influence inducing the distrust of residents because of loose management after site selection of nuclear facilities. As the method, ombudsman system would be examined and applied.

2. Methods and Results

In the site selection problem of nuclear facilities, the democratization of process through conversation and negotiation with neighbor residents is very important, besides the rationalization and realization of compensation system, the arrangement of post local management policy are urgent problems. In this section, the specific methodology is described.

2.1 Yielding economical compensation value

The location of an aversion equipment (avoidance equipment) like nuclear facilities have the aspect to aggravate the economy of local residents. After all the problem of local economic value decline is the problem according to change of environment property of area around site. Therefore for this, economic loss measurement according to method must be considered. With this, when negotiating with each dispute body (government, company VS local residents) for nuclear facilities site selection process, the environment damage measured is provided. Accordingly the opinion gap with party concerned would be made narrow.

In the case of environment problem, because most environment property don't have market price, there is two methods in the measurement of cost-benefit in according to the change of environment property. First method is that environment value is evaluated by the price of other market property (ex. estate, immovable property). Second method is that consumer's preference about the environment property is derived from questionnaire. Former models are travel cost model, Hedonic price model, avoidance act model, etc. Latter is conditional value measurement method (CVM). In this study, when the aversion equipment is located in specific site, compensation value is estimated with the representative method (Hedonic price model and conditional value measurement method) to decide the damage compensation scale for local residents.

2.2 Usefulness of special nuclear ombudsman system

Present nuclear facilities are nuclear power plant sites (Ko-ri, Wol-sung, Young-Gwang, Ul-Chin) and radioactive waste repository site (Kyoung-Ju). Hereafter more sites will have nuclear interest relation. So It is needed special nuclear ombudsman system that deal with various civil petitions to occur in nuclear facilities constructing or constructed.

Special nuclear ombudsman system would take a buffer zone role that makes a smooth communication among central/local government, company, and neighbor residents in nuclear facilities constructing or constructed

The most important thing is that special nuclear ombudsman system take a window role for local residents indirectly to call the government and company to account (cf. directly call : the administration of justice regulation). Therefore it keeps away the moral looseness of the government and company, and ensures local residents' trust. In the end, it contributes to public accommodation guarantee about the nuclear development project.

Besides it can complement the limit of direct the administration of justice regulation, particularly pursuit the rapidity and fairness of process.

Finally, overcoming the lack independence and unprofessional aspect of existing system, it contributes the public right and interest aid as establishing the

ombudsman system about the special field, that is the nuclear energy.

2.3 Conditions for settlement the special nuclear ombudsman system

First, the special nuclear ombudsman system must be under basis of the law and institution. Unless it may, the problem on independence and effectiveness can be occurred. So improving the related laws and ordinances, it needs establishing the ombudsman system/committee which is specialized on nuclear field.

Second, in order to ensure the effectiveness of ombudsman system, it needs authorizing the administrative legal force beyond the simple complaint right and authorizing the right of lodging an objection against related institution/company to the ombudsman committee.

Third, the post of the chairman and a committeeman should be permanent (or the nonintervention of the administration on the right of personnel management), and the budget should be independent/clear in order to ensure the independence of ombudsman system.

Above all things, inducing the continuous participation of local residents, it should grope a developmental scheme for a local pending problem.

3. Conclusion

This study shows that the effectiveness of strategy which persuades just by technical engineering safety in negotiation process with local residents. And the policy agreement by local residents with democratic process is the most important. It is important that the rationalization of compensation scale and compensation system undoubtedly is the method which attains such agreement.

Also as the method of post management system, the usefulness and appropriateness of special nuclear ombudsman system is investigated. It is reviewed about the possibility of buffer zone role as the passage of communication among local residents, government, company, and about conditions for settlement the special nuclear ombudsman system.

It expects that the nuclear ombudsman system can ensure a trust about the nuclear policy with a role which deal with inconvenience and a civil petition to occur in nuclear facilities constructing or constructed, and can strive for the public accommodation elevation for the nuclear development project.

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