

Atomic Energy Basic Law (Excerpt)¹
(Law No.186, December 19, 1955)
Latest Revision: Law No. 155, December 19, 2004

(Objectives)

Article 1. The Objectives of this Law shall be to secure energy resources in the future, to achieve the progress of science and technology and the promotion of industries by encouraging the research, development and utilization of nuclear power and thereby to contribute to the improvement of the welfare of the human society and of the national living standard.

(Basic Policy)

Article 2. The research, development and utilization of nuclear power shall be limited to peaceful purposes, shall aim at ensuring safety, giving priority, and shall be performed independently under democratic administration, and the results obtained shall be made public and shall actively contribute to international cooperation.

(Establishment)

Article 4. In the Cabinet Office, there shall be established the Atomic Energy Commission and the Nuclear Safety Commission for the purposes of carrying out the planned national policies on the research, development and utilization of nuclear power and of realizing the democratic operation of nuclear power administration.

(Functions)

Article 5. The Atomic Energy Commission shall plan, consider and determine the matters (excluding those related to implementing regulation for ensuring safety) related to the research, development and utilization of nuclear power.

2. The Nuclear Safety Commission shall plan, consider and determine the matters related to ensuring safety in the research, development and utilization of nuclear power.

(Organization, Operation and Authority)

Article 6. The matters concerning the organizations, operations and authorities of the Atomic Energy Commission and the Nuclear Safety Commission shall be provided by other laws.

(Control over Nuclear Source Materials)

Article 10. The import, export, transfer, receipt and purification of nuclear source materials shall be entrusted, as provided by other law, only to those designated by the Government.

(Regulation concerning Nuclear Fuel Materials)

Article 12. Those who attempt to produce, import, export, possess, hold, transfer, receive, use or transport nuclear fuel materials shall be subject to the regulations to be enforced by the Government as provided by other Law.

(Regulation over Construction Etc. of Reactors)

Article 14. Those who attempt to construct reactors shall be subject to the regulations to be enforced by the Government as provided by other law. The same shall apply also to those who attempt to reconstruct or remove them.

Article 15. Those who attempt to transfer or receive reactors shall be subject to the regulations to be enforced by the Government as provided by other Law.

Article 16. Those who have constructed, reconstructed, removed received reactors in compliance with the regulations referred to in the preceding two Articles shall, as provided by other law, obtain the approval of the Government for the operation plan prior to their operation.

(Measures for Prevention of Radiation Hazards)

Article 20. The regulations on the manufacture, sale, use, measurement, etc. and any other safety and hygienic measures relating to radioactive materials and radiation generating devices in order to prevent radiation hazards and to ensure the public safety shall be provided by other Laws.

¹ Source: IRRS Mission in 2007