Restoration of city gas supplies in the Tohoku and Kanto regions

- Recovery work accelerates with the help of gas utilities throughout Japan

As of 22:00, Friday, April 1

City gas

- City gas supplies were suspended in 19 regions in 8 prefectures due to damage to production facilities and pipes. As restoration work progressed, supplies have resumed to 149,579 households. However, 254,132 households in 8 regions in the 3 prefectures of Iwate, Miyagi, and Fukushima still lack gas supplies and are waiting for restoration.

- Unlike gasoline and light oil, LNG is not in short supply now. Gas supplies are disrupted only due to damage to production facilities and gas pipes in certain areas. Therefore, gas supply is resuming in areas where production facilities have been restored and become able to supply gas to the local network of pipes, but only after safety is verified in each house by gas utility technicians mobilized in large numbers.

- **Sendai City Gas Bureau**, which had the largest number of customers waiting for supply restoration (approx. 311,144 households), began to resume supply on March 23 and has already restored supply to 86,021 households (28% of total) after securing pipelines from Niigata, although its tsunami-ravaged LNG base is expected to take considerable time for operation to resume. Osaka Gas and other gas utilities from around Japan joined the recovery effort, increasing the number of workers to up to 3,200, thus Sendai City Gas aims for the full resumption of gas supply in April (with the exception of areas too difficult to work in). Sendai City Gas expects to resume the majority of supplies in one to one and a half months. **Shiogama Gas**, which is connected to Sendai City Gas via pipes, is conducting recovery work in the same manner.

- As for the three hardest-hit gas utilities (Kamaishi, Kesennuma and Ishinomaki), Kamaishi and Kesennuma resumed supply to general customers on March 28. Ishinomaki has already started temporary supply to hospitals and other critical facilities from portable gas generators, and aims to start supply to general customers around April 10.

- In areas facing supply disruption in **Fukushima**, restoration efforts by local gas companies has been accelerating since Tokyo Gas joined them after finishing the work to resume supply to its own 30,008 customers in the Hitachi district.

Community gas

- Although community gas supplies are resuming gradually, about 5,000 households in apartment houses in the 3 prefectures of Iwate, Miyagi, and Fukushima still lack gas supplies due to damage to pipes or devastating damage to apartment buildings.

- Since most community gas utilities are LP gas suppliers, gas needed for community gas customers has been secured separately through LP gas supply-related measures.

- Utilities are continuing efforts to repair damaged pipes and other equipment, while striving to resume supply to customers as early as possible, by taking measures including installation of gas cylinders in individual apartments as an alternative.