J-POWER and Enviva Partners to Collaborate on Supply Chain for Woody Biomass Thermal Power Generation

Electric Power Development Co., Ltd. (headquartered in Chuo-ku, Tokyo; Toshifumi Watanabe, President, "J-POWER") announced today that J-POWER has signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Enviva Partners, LP ("Enviva Partners") for joint research on the use of and supply chain for woody biomass thermal power generation aimed at achieving carbon-neutral thermal power generation ("the project").

Enviva Partners is a global supplier of woody biomass energy, owning 10 plants in Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Mississippi, and Florida, USA, with an annual capacity of 6.2 million tons of wood pellet fuel. Wood pellet fuel is sold to customers in Europe, including the UK, and Japan under long-term contracts. Enviva Partners announced their Climate Action Plan on February 17, 2021, declaring the goal of achieving net zero greenhouse gas emissions from operations by 2030. They also declared the intention to cooperate with supply chain partners to find ways to make innovative improvements that reduce emissions across the supply chain.

In the project, the two companies will assess logistics, port and storage facilities, power generation plants, safety and fire prevention measures, as well as sustainability for the large-scale (assuming up to 5 million tons per year) and long-term supply of wood pellet fuel from the United States—where Enviva Partners' manufacturing bases are located—to Japan, where J-POWER generates power. Through the project, the two companies will accelerate ways to steadily and inexpensively produce energy from woody biomass as well as explore its sustainable use.

The project is one of the challenges included in our vision, J-POWER "BLUE MISSION 2050" (announced on February 26, 2021) to achieve zero emissions from power sources. J-POWER will continue to fast track our commitment to help create a carbon-neutral and hydrogen-based society by 2050.