

# Independent Assurance

Aiming to provide assurance for the reliability of information carried in the Japanese version of this report, we submitted the key environmental performance indicators to Ernst & Young Shin Nihon Sustainability Institute Co., Ltd. for independent assurance. The actual assurance report is provided with the original Japanese version. The following is a translation of the original.

## TRANSLATION Independent Assurance Report

July 17, 2008

Mr. Yoshitaka Sato  
President and Director  
Hokkaido Electric Power Co., Inc.

### 1. Scope and Objective of our Assurance Engagement

We have performed certain assurance procedures, based on the engagement with Hokkaido Electric Power Co., Inc. (the “Company”), to express an independent opinion on the Company’s Key Environmental Performance Indicators (the “Key Environmental Information”<sup>\*1</sup> as provided in the Assurance and Registration Scheme of the Sustainability Report) reported in the Company’s “HEPCO Sustainability Report 2008” (the “Sustainability Report”) for the year ended March 31, 2008, with respect to whether the Key Environmental Performance Indicators are measured and calculated accurately and whether material information are disclosed completely in accordance with the reporting standards of a sustainability report<sup>\*2</sup>.

The preparation of the Sustainability Report is the responsibility of the Company’s management. Our responsibility is to express an independent opinion on the Sustainability Report.

<sup>\*1</sup> The Key Environmental Information refer to the information stipulated in the “2008 Environmental Reporting Assurance and Registration Criteria” of the Japanese Association of Assurance Organizations for Sustainability Information (“J-SUS”).

<sup>\*2</sup> The reporting standards refer to the “2007 Environmental Reporting Guidelines” of the Ministry of Environment, the “2002 Sustainability Reporting Guidelines” of the Global Reporting Initiatives, and the “2008 Environmental Reporting Assurance and Registration Criteria” of the J-SUS in the context of specifying the subject matter.

### 2. Outline of Assurance Procedures Performed

We have performed limited assurance procedures<sup>\*3</sup> which are mainly composed of inquiries, reviews and analytical procedures in accordance with the “2003 International Standard on Assurance Engagements (ISAE) 3000 Assurance Engagements Other than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information” of the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) and the “2008 Practical Guidelines for the Assurance of Sustainability Information” of the J-SUS. Therefore, our assurance engagement provides relatively limited assurance compared to a reasonable assurance engagement.

<sup>\*3</sup> We have reviewed and assessed the Company’s procedures for the collection and aggregation of data, as well as recalculated and reconciled them with the corroborating evidences on the quantitative environmental information on a test basis. Also, we have reviewed the minutes, checked for consistency and made inquiries on the qualitative environmental information.

### 3. Conclusion

Based on the assurance procedures performed, we were not aware of any Key Environmental Performance Indicators (the “Key Environmental Information” as provided in the Assurance and Registration Scheme of the Sustainability Report) that are not measured and calculated accurately in accordance with the reporting standards of sustainability reports, any material Environmental information that are not included in the Sustainability Report.

### 4. Independency

We, as a subsidiary of the Ernst & Young ShinNihon LLC, comply with the “Certified Public Accountant Law”, and the “Ethics Regulation” of the Japanese Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Therefore, there has been no interest to be noted between the Company and us.

Akihiro Nakagome  
Representative Director  
Ernst & Young Shin Nihon Sustainability Institute Co., Ltd.

Note: This Independent Assurance Report was prepared as a translation of the original Japanese version.