

マイケル・シュナイダー氏からのご質問とその回答

「長計についてご意見を聴く会（第5回）」にご出席いただいたマイケル・シュナイダー氏より後日書面にいただきましたご質問とその回答について以下のとおりとりまとめました。

【マイケル・シュナイダー氏からのご質問】

In a recent paper, the Atomic Energy Commission stressed the significance of “democratic management” in the pursuance of peaceful nuclear research and use: “We, the Atomic Energy Commission, fulfil our responsibility incessantly recalling this principle (...)”. The document also states that “the Commission itself shall continually conduct policy evaluations and reappraisals, taking into consideration the most recent information and state of affairs so that the possibility of attaining overall objectives stipulated in the Atomic Energy Basic Law is not impaired”.¹

It is in this context that the Commission is organizing public hearings, including evidence given by independent experts like myself. However, I have learned that at least part of the Atomic Energy Commission’s Secretariat is carried out by officials who are receiving a salary by the Commission while are also on the payroll of the private nuclear industry. Asked whether this situation would not constitute a case of Conflict of Interest, one of the members of the Commission’s secretariat answered: “May be.”

I consider it a very serious case of Conflict of Interest, it members of the Atomic Energy Commission’s Secretariat are simultaneously receiving salaries by the Commission and by the nuclear industry. Such a situation would certainly severely damage the Commission’s credibility as independent State body acting in an exemplary democratic manner in collective public interest.

I would be grateful if you could share with me your thoughts on this serious matter.

¹ Atomic Energy Commission of Japan, *New Year Policy Statement*, January 6, 2004

【近藤委員長の回答】

Par your letter on the conflict of interest, I would like to make the following points clear to you.

- (1) The mission of the Atomic Energy Commission is to act as a guardian of principles and objectives set in the Atomic Energy Basic Law, deliberate the long term program of research, development and utilization of atomic energy, review the relevant actions taken by various stakeholders along the program, and make advice them, if necessary. Commissioners are the government officer appointed by the Prime Minister with the approval of the Diet and endeavor to accomplish the mission impartially.
- (2) The Commission makes any decision collectively though the Commission and the Commissioners receive various secretariat services from the Commission's Secretariat which is under the supervision of the Chairman. The Secretariat is composed of national government employees, who act under the obligation of the National Public Service Law.