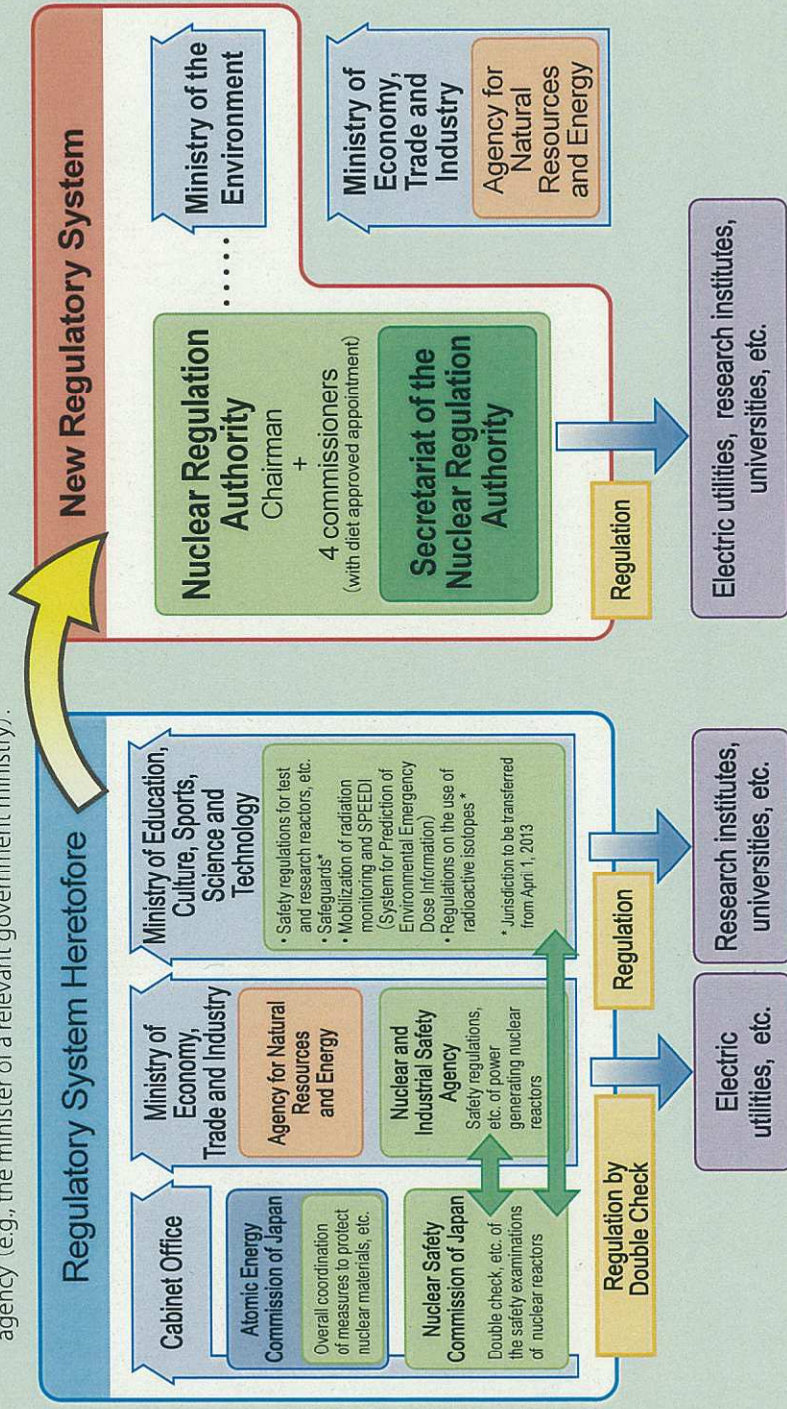


Crux of the Reform

1 Separation of “Regulation” and “Utilization”

Heretofore, the Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency, which was responsible for nuclear safety “Regulations,” had been placed under the auspices of the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, which had been tasked with promoting the utilization of nuclear power. To resolve the problem caused by having both the “promotion of utilization” and “safety regulations” under the same organization, the safety regulation division was separated from the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry and the Nuclear Regulation Authority was newly established as an external organization of the Ministry of the Environment. The Nuclear Regulation Authority is highly independent Article 3 Authority*.

* The “Article 3 Authority” (an authority provided for under Article 3, Clause 2 of the National Government Organization Act) is a council system organization ensuring the independent exercise of authority, without control and supervision from a senior agency (e.g., the minister of a relevant government ministry).



2 Unification of the “Regulations”

The affairs for nuclear power regulations assumed by the each related government agency and the affairs for protecting nuclear material and the like (nuclear security) have been unified into the Nuclear Regulation Authority. Furthermore, the Nuclear Safety Commission of Japan was abolished and the necessary functions have been integrated into the Nuclear Regulation Authority. On April 1, 2013, the regulations, such as for the nuclear nonproliferation safeguards*, radiation monitoring and the use of radioisotopes, which had been the responsibility of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, were also transferred and the “regulation” related functions have been centralized under the responsibility of the Nuclear Regulation Authority.

* This refers to the verification activities that are conducted to guarantee that nuclear materials are used for peaceful purposes and are not diverted for such purposes as nuclear weapons.

3 Information Disclosure with High Transparency

Through vehicles such as its website, the Nuclear Regulation Authority will spontaneously release government documentation as far as possible, without waiting for specific requests for information disclosure.

The substance of meetings held by the Nuclear Regulation Authority will, in principle, be made public. Furthermore, records will also be kept of the discussions concerning regulatory matters held with the regulated groups, such as, electric utilities and will in principle be released to the public.