



March 29, 2013

Company Name: Japan Petroleum Exploration Co., Ltd. (JAPEX)
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Notice of Partial Change of Members of Independent Committee for Measures to Prevent Large-Scale Acquisition of Our Company Shares (Takeover Defense Measures)

The Japan Petroleum Exploration Co., Ltd. (JAPEX) announces that a meeting of its Board of Directors held today resolved to appoint a new member of the Independent Committee established under the measures to prevent the large-scale acquisition of shares of JAPEX (takeover defense measures), because one of the three members of the Committee, Mr. Keizo Sakata, passed away on November 6, 2012. Details are as follows:

<New Member of the Independent Committee>

[Name] Keiichiro Tsuchiya

[Career Summary]

Born on December 23, 1946

April 1986 Assistant professor, School of Law, Meiji University

April 1992 Professor, School of Law, Meiji University (up to the present date)

April 2004 Dean, School of Law, Meiji University

April 2008 Executive Trustee, Meiji University

(Note) No particular relationship exists between Mr. Keiichiro Tsuchiya and JAPEX.

[Term] Up to the close of the ordinary general meeting of shareholders to be held in June 2014

Therefore, the three members of the Independent Committee will be Mr. Keiichiro Tsuchiya, Mr. Kazuo Kawakami (outside director of JAPEX) and Mr. Masahiko Kadotani (outside corporate auditor of JAPEX).

For details of the measures to prevent the large-scale acquisition of shares of JAPEX (takeover defense measures), please see the press release dated May 13, 2011, "Renewal of Measures to Prevent Large-scale Acquisition of Our Company Shares (Takeover Defense Measures)" (http://www.japex.co.jp/english/newsrelease/pdf/JAPEX_20110513bai_E.pdf).