

**Government Response to
the Petition of Shinichi Yamada:
Advocates that the Japanese government prevents a nuclear crisis
in Japan**

Presented to the House of Representatives

In accordance with Standing Order 380

Government Response to the Petition of Shinichi Yamada: Advocate that the Japanese government prevents a nuclear crisis in Japan

Introduction

- 1 The government has carefully considered the Petition Committee's referral of the petition entitled "Shinichi Yamada: Advocate that the Japanese government prevents a nuclear crisis in Japan". The petition requests that the New Zealand government advocates that the Japanese government stops running the 12 nuclear reactors in the southern part of Japan, to prevent a nuclear crisis in the event of a major earthquake and tsunami.
- 2 The government welcomes the Committee's referral of this petition and thanks the petitioner for bringing this matter to the government's attention.
- 3 The government responds to the report in accordance with Standing Order 380.
- 4 The government has considered the petition as it pertains to New Zealand's existing foreign policy settings. The government is not in a position to respond positively on the recommendation for the reasons outlined below.

Recommendations and government response

- 5 Petition Recommendation: *"That the House of Representatives urge the Government to advocate that the Japanese government stops running the 12 nuclear reactors in the southern part of Japan, to prevent a nuclear crisis in the event of a major earthquake and tsunami."*
- 6 Response:
 - 6.1 The management of Japan's energy policies, including how it chooses to generate energy to meet its energy needs, is a domestic matter for Japan.
 - 6.2 Japan complies with International Atomic Energy Agency standards.
 - 6.3 Japan has extensive experience in responding effectively to significant natural disasters.

Conclusion

- 7 The government is not in a position to respond positively to this petition. The management of Japan's energy policies is a domestic issue, Japan complies with International Atomic Energy Agency standards, and Japan has extensive experience responding to natural disasters.