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## TEPCO prepares for hard rain at Fukushima plant

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The operator of the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant is taking measures to stop heavy rain and strong winds affecting the cooling system.

Local weather authorities in Fukushima Prefecture say the rain and winds are expected around the plant on Monday morning.

TEPCO is piling up sandbags to prevent rain from getting inside electrical facility buildings.

Special vehicles used to inject water into the spent fuel storage pools have been moved away and their 50-meter arms folded so they won't blow over.

TEPCO says it won't matter if no water is injected into the spent fuel storage pool of the Number 4 reactor for a week, as it has put enough water into the pool.

As part of preparations for the expected thunderstorms, TEPCO has fixed a giant storage barge to the quay. The barge will be used to hold relatively low-level radioactive water.

Removal of debris and reinforcement of the fuel pool will be suspended if wind and rain intensify.

Contaminated water levels in the tunnels and the turbine buildings of the Number 2 and 3 reactors have been rising.

TEPCO will continue to monitor the situation to make sure that contaminated water does not overflow and run into the sea or groundwater.

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