

Summary from the General Manager of the Management Planning Department

During FY2013 the Japanese economy continued to suffer harsh conditions due to the slowdown of the global economy and other factors. With the introduction of domestic economic measures and significant monetary easing, however, there was a gradual recovery including a rise in stock prices and an improvement in consumer attitudes. Even so, although it is now two and a half years since the Great East Japan Earthquake, we are only halfway to reaching the goals of complete recovery and restoration, including finding a satisfactory answer to the nuclear power issue.

On the domestic front, the second cabinet of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's administration has been inaugurated and has announced the implementation of a zero-based energy and environmental strategy review, and global warming measures. While the government is actively promoting a new energy policy, including the establishment of a renewable energy feed-in-tariff scheme, the outlook for Japanese energy and environmental strategies remains uncertain regarding the issue of nuclear power generation. Against this chaotic backdrop, we, as a business operator, believe that while paying close attention to future possibilities, it remains vital for us to develop appropriate and necessary market responses such as the promotion of eco-stations, the pursuit of renewable energy, and the development of a new railcar drive system.

On the international scene, at the 18th Conference of the Parties (COP18) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), held in Doha in November 2012, it was decided that Japan, which is not participating in the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol, will be advancing measures based on the Cancun Agreement. From this aspect also, domestic energy and environmental strategies are coming to significant crossroads.

JR East Group is very aware of its role in society and societal expectations, so we designated the Great East Japan Earthquake as a second starting point and in October last year formulated "Management Vision V-Ever Onward." Under the slogan "Thriving with Communities, Growing Globally," we intend to contribute environmentally to both communities and the world by fully utilizing the environmental advantages and technologies of railways. As a result of taking social movements into account, we decided to change the title of this year's report from JR East Group Sustainability Report to Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Report.

We will continue to address global environmental issues by making active and long-term group-wide efforts and, thereby, contribute to the creation of a sustainable society. Only in this way will the JR East Group continue to enjoy the favor of its customers.



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