Press Release

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Daiichi Sankyo Announces Removal of Contaminated Soil Storage Facility from Site of Former Yasugawa Plant in Japan

Tokyo, Japan (April 27, 2020) – Daiichi Sankyo Company, Limited (hereafter, “Daiichi Sankyo”) today announced that it will remove a contaminated soil storage facility located on the site of its former Sankyo Yasugawa plant (hereafter, “the plant”) in Japan.

The plant began operations in 1939, manufacturing agricultural chemicals. After production ceased in 2003, it has been managed as a vacant site. In 1993, it was confirmed that mercury, which was one of the agrochemical raw materials, was distributed in the former plant site in excess of environmental standards. Daiichi Sankyo established a robust underground storage facility in line with government directives and has managed the contaminated soil appropriately.

Although there have been no reports of leakages or adverse effects on health thus far, in order to contribute to the further safety and peace of mind of the community going forward, and in accordance with the wishes of local residents, Daiichi Sankyo has decided to remove the underground storage facility. Through close consultation with the relevant stakeholders, Daiichi Sankyo will take every effort to prevent any impact on the surrounding environment during the removal process.

Daiichi Sankyo allocated a provision for environmental measures of approximately 8.2 billion yen as related expenses in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2019, which will be used to cover the cost of removal work.

Daiichi Sankyo will continue to implement environment-focused management by addressing the reduction of environmental impact and risks in its business activities.
Overview of Sankyo Co., Ltd. Yasugawa plant (agricultural chemical manufacturing plant)
Location: 1041 Yasu, Yasu-shi, Shiga Prefecture
Site Area: Approx. 64,000 ㎡
Operating Period: 1939 - 2003

About Daiichi Sankyo
Daiichi Sankyo Group is dedicated to the creation and supply of innovative pharmaceutical therapies to improve standards of care and address diversified, unmet medical needs of people globally by leveraging our world-class science and technology. With more than 100 years of scientific expertise and a presence in more than 20 countries, Daiichi Sankyo and its 15,000 employees around the world draw upon a rich legacy of innovation and a robust pipeline of promising new medicines to help people. In addition to a strong portfolio of medicines for cardiovascular diseases, under the Group’s 2025 Vision to become a “Global Pharma Innovator with Competitive Advantage in Oncology,” Daiichi Sankyo is primarily focused on providing novel therapies in oncology, as well as other research areas centered around rare diseases and immune disorders. For more information, please visit: www.daiichisankyo.com/