

# Contribution to the Local Communities

## Basic Concept

The Toho Gas Group is advancing efforts to contribute to a sustainable society, addressing diverse regional needs and challenges such as carbon neutrality and enhanced resilience. We are deepening our collaboration with municipalities, primarily in the three-prefecture Tokai region (Aichi, Gifu, and Mie), strengthening our engagement with customers, and striving to co-create new value. By addressing the emerging challenges in the region, we aim to contribute to achieving prosperity within the region.

## Initiatives for Coexistence with Local Communities

### Signing Comprehensive Collaboration Agreements with Municipalities

To collaborate with municipalities on activities that contribute to solving such local issues as achieving carbon neutrality and educating the next generation, we have signed comprehensive collaboration agreements with the cities of Okazaki, Hashima, Chiryu, Kuwana, Anjo, and Miyoshi.

By leveraging the knowledge and expertise we have

Agreement partner	Agreement name	Date of signing
Okazaki City	Comprehensive Collaboration Agreement for the Promotion, Etc., of Carbon Neutrality	November 2022
Hashima City	Comprehensive Collaboration Agreement for Achieving a Zero Carbon City	January 2023
Chiryu City	Comprehensive Collaboration Agreement for Promoting SDGs	January 2023
Kuwana City	Comprehensive Collaboration Agreement for Achieving a Zero Carbon City	January 2023
Anjo City	Comprehensive Collaboration Agreement for the Promotion, Etc., of Carbon Neutrality	March 2023
Miyoshi City	Comprehensive Collaboration Agreement for Town Development	March 2023

accumulated, we will enhance initiatives that lead to coexistence with local communities through collaboration with municipalities, aiming to achieve a sustainable society.



Signing of the comprehensive collaboration agreement with Okazaki



Stage exhibition at an environmental awareness event held by Anjo City (an undertaking based on the comprehensive collaboration agreement)

## TOPIC

### Carbon Neutrality of Electricity and City Gas Used in Anjo City Public Facilities

Starting from April 2023, we have successively begun supplying CO<sub>2</sub>-free electricity and carbon-neutral city gas produced at installations like Anjo City's Environmental Clean Center trash-disposal facility to such public facilities as city offices and elementary schools in Anjo.

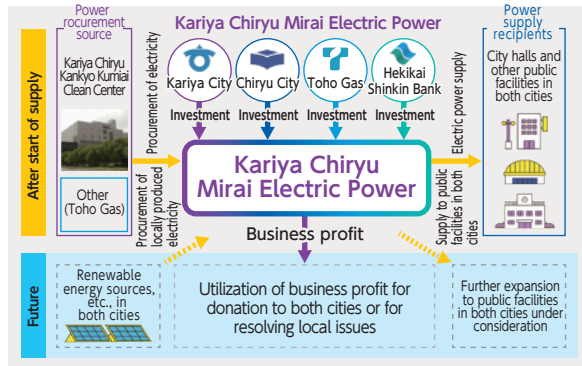
### Adoption of Carbon-neutral City Gas in Miyoshi

Starting from April 2023, we have begun supplying carbon-neutral city gas to 20 facilities, including city offices, a municipal hospital, and all elementary and middle schools in Miyoshi City.

### Regional Revitalization Through Regional New Power Generation

Toho Gas has jointly established regional new power companies with municipalities and other entities. These companies supply renewable energy generated within the community, such as from waste-to-energy, to public facilities, thereby promoting carbon neutrality in the region and contributing to locally produced and locally consumed energy. In FY2022, we established three new companies, expanding the total to five. In the future, through moves such as using business profits for reinvestment in further renewable energy proliferation and donations to the municipalities, we will contribute to regional revitalization.

Municipality	Power company name	Date of establishment
Matsusaka City	Matsusaka Shin-denryoku Co., Ltd.	November 2017
Okazaki City	Okazaki Sakura Electric Power Co., Inc.	March 2020
Suzuka City	Suzuka Green Energy Co., Ltd.	September 2022
Kariya City Chiryu City	Kariya Chiryu Mirai Electric Power Co., Ltd.	November 2022
Ichinomiya City	Ichinomya Mirai Energy Co., Ltd.	January 2023



Kariya Chiryu Mirai Electric Power business scheme

### Basic Agreement on Technical Cooperation with Municipalities

To further collaborate with the Nagoya City Waterworks & Sewerage Bureau on facility and equipment maintenance and management as well as human-resource development, Toho Gas Network Co., Ltd. has signed a Basic Agreement on Technical Cooperation.

Given the common tasks related to maintenance of pipeline equipment and human-resource development, this collaboration aims to resolve issues quickly and enhance the efficiency of business operations through working together and cooperating in information exchange, joint inspections, and



Agreement signing ceremony (March 2023)

the like. Moving forward, we will continue to enhance safety measures, such as maintenance of gas equipment and emergency response, while further strengthening collaboration with relevant organizations, and we are working to continue providing safe and secure city gas usage to our customers.

### Contributing to the Regional Community Through Minato AQULS

Minato AQULS is replete with water and greenery, and it creates a space that is harmonized with the environment, primarily for pedestrians to enjoy walking. Since its opening in September 2018, it has received many visitors. The development concept was "to be a town that fosters connections among people, the environment and the region" in order to resolve social issues in the region.

At Minato AQULS, we centrally manage the energy supply and demand within the area, and in FY2022, we achieved a 69% reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (compared to 1990 levels),

surpassing the initial target of 60%.

Also, condominiums that have obtained ZEH-M Oriented\* certification were completed in March 2023. Similar to the existing 265 units, all 238 units have been equipped with Ene-Farm type S. They operate at full capacity 24 hours a day, and the surplus power generated is distributed to other facilities in the community through the Energy Center. As one decentralized power source, this contributes to localized energy production and consumption.

In the future, with Minato AQULS as a Decarbonization Leading Area designated by the Ministry of the Environment, in collaboration with the City of Nagoya, while continuing our efforts at Minato AQULS to maximize renewable energy and implement advanced technologies, we will work to address local challenges and become a model for decarbonization which contributes to regional revitalization that improves the region's appeal and enhances the quality of life for residents.

\* "ZEH-M Oriented" refers to condominiums that reduce primary energy consumption by over 20% building-wide, including in shared areas.



Panoramic view of Minato AQULS



Decarbonization Leading Area Selection Certificate

# Contribution to the Local Communities

## Expansion of Green Curtain Activities

We have been working to expand energy-saving "green curtains" since FY2014 by making efforts to control rising temperatures in buildings using plants. In FY2022, we donated 500 bags containing seeds of the goya (bitter melon) and 728 goya (bitter melon) seedlings to the City of Nagoya, which were distributed to citizens at environmental events such as Environment Day Nagoya.



Certificate of appreciation presentation ceremony

## Protection Activities for Children and the Elderly

To deter child victimization, we, along with our sales outlets and construction companies, engage in crime prevention activities for protecting children. We designate about 200 business locations as children's emergency shelters," where children who feel unsafe can seek protection. Additionally, we have affixed "Child Crime Prevention Patrol Support Vehicle" stickers to approximately 2,200 of the Group's vehicles.

Toho Gas and Toho Gas Customer Service Co., Ltd. also entered into an agreement with local governments to cooperate in protection activities for the elderly as we work together toward creating local communities where the elderly can live in security.

## Education for the Next Generation

### Activities Supporting Education in Schools

Toho Gas Network Co., Ltd. has conducted special classes to teach children who will lead the next generation about energy, the environment, and food.

In FY2022, we conducted programs such as "Let's Think! Energy and Disaster Prevention" and "Global Environment and Natural Gas" a total of 54 times in 24 schools. Starting from FY2023, we introduced a program called "Let's Make Roasted Sweet Potatoes" to experience energy-efficient cooking. We have also started engaging in collaborative activities with local groups and corporations.



Special class

### Hosting EPOC Environmental Education Classes

We participate in the Environmental Partnership Organizing Club (EPOC), established primarily by members of the industrial sector in the Chubu region, and offer environmental education classes that help children perceive environmental issues as relevant to their daily lives.

In FY2022, we held 12 sessions of courses titled

"Learning Biodiversity through Biotope" and "Observation and Learning at the Exhibition Hall," engaging 343 elementary school students.



Environmental education class

### Environmental and Energy Education at Gas Energy Exhibition Hall

At the Gas Energy Exhibition Hall managed by Toho Gas, provide interactive exhibitions and experiences on the theme of "global warming and energy" that give elementary and junior high school students opportunities to consider the importance of the environment.

We also hold an "Eco Class" every month, where activities include observing creatures in the biotope, creating art using recycled materials, and collaborating with local universities to teach ecosystem conservation through quiz-based sessions.



Eco Class held jointly with a local university



## Contributions to the Community Through Culture and Sports

### — Kokoro no Ki ("Tree of the Heart") Book Reviews

Since FY2001, we have held a book review contest for elementary and junior high school students to encourage their enjoyment of reading and to think about the relationship between people and nature.

In FY2022, we received 4,498 entries and presented 109 awards, including the Most Moving Award and the Toho Gas 100th Anniversary Special Award.



Award presentation

### — Baseball Classes and Soft Tennis Classes

Toho Gas's soft tennis club holds tennis classes for elementary, junior high, and senior high school students at visited schools and elsewhere. In FY2022, team members acted as instructors at a Tennis Court Open Memorial Event held at Nanryo Junior High School in Tokoname City.

Our regulation baseball club also organizes baseball classes for local children. In FY2022, we held baseball classes for elementary school students and below at Minato

AQULS, where activities included strikeout practice and speed measurement with a radar gun, engaging around 200 participants.

We will continue contributing too the community through sports promotion activities.



Soft tennis class



Baseball class

### — Toho Gas Pennant Boys' Baseball Tournament

To contribute to local sports promotion and the wholesome development of junior high school students, we have been collaborating with the Japan Boys League to host a boys' baseball tournament since FY1993. In FY2022, 29 teams participated, showcasing heated matches.



Youth Baseball Tournament

