Target materiality

Compliance

Basic Concept

For the Toho Gas Group, compliance includes complying with laws and internal regulations, while acting in accordance with social norms and ethics and meeting the expectations of customers and society. By ensuring thorough implementation of the Corporate Code of Ethical Conduct and the Compliance Code of Conduct, each of our employees strives to live up to the trust of customers.

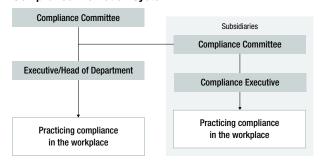
On March 4, 2024, the Company received a warning from the Japan Fair Trade Commission due to violation or potential violation of the Antimonopoly Act in relation to the supply of low voltage power, residential city gas. On July 26, 2024, the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry issued an order to improve business practices under the Gas Business Act, and the Electricity and Gas Market Surveillance Commission issued guidance for improved business practices along with a warning. In response, we formulated a business improvement plan that was submitted to the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry on August 23, 2024. We take this matter very seriously and are implementing measures to prevent a recurrence of such activity as part of our business improvement plan.

Compliance Promotion System

The Compliance Committee, which is chaired by the President and includes executive officers and executive general managers, meets twice a year as a general rule to deliberate on compliance activity plans and results, and submits reports on such information to the Board of Directors. General managers at each workplace are responsible for promoting compliance, and managers and section managers are responsible for promoting compliance activities.

As part of our system to ensure continuous oversight, each subsidiary has an appointed compliance officer and an established compliance committee.

Compliance Promotion System



Compliance Activities

Compliance Consultation Service (Whistleblowing Hotline)

The Toho Gas Group has established the Compliance Consultation Service both internally and outside the Company at a lawyer's office to allow direct consultation in person, by email, or by phone for various issues such as legal compliance. maintaining a healthy work environment including harassment prevention, and fair business activities. This service is available not only to Group employees, including dispatched staff, but also to retired employees and business partners as well

In accordance with rules for handling compliance consultation, we will promptly investigate the facts and circumstances regarding consultations we receive. If the investigation reveals a compliance violation, we will take the necessary corrective actions as well as measures to prevent a recurrence immediately. In addition, Compliance Consultation Service staff receive training to protect whistleblowers by ensuring their confidentiality and prevent retaliatory treatment.

All reported information is strictly managed, monitored by Audit & Supervisory Board Members, reported to management, and handled appropriately. In FY2024, there were 47 consultations.

Protection of Personal Information

To ensure safety management measures and appropriate handling of personal information, we have established a personal information protection policy, personal information protection rules, and other internal regulations and manuals based on the Act on the Protection of Personal Information and various quidelines. As part of our framework to protect personal information, we established the Personal Information Protection Committee, which is chaired by the Personal Information Protection Manager, an executive officer appointed by the President, and includes protection supervisors responsible for customer, shareholder, and employee information. This committee deliberates on action plans, results, and other matters related to the protection of personal information. We conduct regular self-audits on personal information management at all Group workplaces, and we work to ensure the security of our information systems such as by restricting access to personal information and preventing unauthorized access from the internet.

