

Japan Credit Rating Agency, Ltd. (JCR) announces the following credit rating.

JCR's Rating Review of Blast Furnace Steel Manufacturers

| Issuer | Code | Long-Term Issuer Rating | | Outlook |
|--------------------------|------|-------------------------|-----|---------|
| NIPPON STEEL CORPORATION | 5401 | <Affirmation> | AA | Stable |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | 5411 | <Affirmation> | AA- | Stable |
| JFE Steel Corporation | - | <Affirmation> | AA- | Stable |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | 5406 | <Affirmation> | A | Stable |

| Issuer | Code | Short-Term Issuer Rating/CP | |
|--------------------------|------|-----------------------------|------|
| NIPPON STEEL CORPORATION | 5401 | <Affirmation> | J-1+ |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | 5411 | <Affirmation> | J-1+ |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | 5406 | <Affirmation> | J-1 |

(See page 5 and beyond for details about ratings on individual bonds, etc.)

Rating Viewpoints

- JCR has reviewed the ratings of blast furnace companies and affirmed the ratings of all companies with Stable outlook. There has been no significant change in the JCR's views on the performance of each company, and JCR assumes that each of them will be able to secure stable profit for the time being. The business environment is challenging, with weak domestic demand for steel products and sluggish overseas steel markets, but from the fiscal year ended March 2022 onwards, margins on tied transactions have improved, and cost fluctuations have generally been reflected appropriately in prices. There are no major concerns in businesses other than steel. From a financial perspective, each company maintains a stable financial base. Investment aimed at achieving carbon neutrality has not yet begun in earnest, and capital accumulation of profits is progressing against the backdrop of strong business performance.
- The business environment is becoming increasingly severe. Domestic demand for steel products is currently weakening, and there is a growing possibility that the pace of medium- to long-term demand decline will become faster. While demand from automobile sector is expected to recover to a certain extent in line with an increase in production volume, demand from civil engineering and construction sector is unlikely to recover due to factors such as a shortage of manpower and a decline in construction capacity due to work style reforms. Overseas, amid the economic slowdown in China, demand for steel has shrunk compared to its peak. On the other hand, crude steel production remains high, and the increase in exports from China is having a negative impact on the global steel market. The profitability of exports for blast furnace companies has been low, and it is necessary to be careful about further deterioration in overseas markets.
- Even in a difficult business environment, earnings power of blast furnace companies has been maintained. In recent years, they have been reducing their production capacity, lowering their fixed costs, and focusing on optimizing the prices of their tied transactions. These measures have lowered the break-even point, making it easier for them to secure profits even when sales volumes do not increase. Efforts to expand sales of high value-added products such as electromagnetic steel sheets and ultra-high tensile strength steel sheets have also led to improvements in profitability. Together

with these efforts, they are strengthening their overseas business development, where high growth is expected in the medium to long term, and JCR will pay attention to the progress.

- (4) Blast furnace companies are making progress in their efforts to achieve carbon neutrality. Each company is working on technology development, such as the use of hydrogen in the steelmaking process using the Green Innovation Fund, and considering the conversion of some blast furnaces to electric furnaces using subsidies from GX Economy Transition Bonds. In addition to these, the trend towards the spread of green steel is a major attention point. For the time being, the popularization of green steel and the resulting increase in revenue will be important in order to cover the increased capital investment and costs incurred by each company in reducing their CO2 emissions. The challenge is to design a system and create a market that will raise awareness of the value of green steel and increase momentum for society as a whole to bear the cost of decarbonization.
- (5) The financial situation of each company is improving. In addition to the continuation of good business performance, cash measures such as asset sales and the use of hybrid finance are also contributing. While the burden of investments to increase production of high value-added products and deal with aging facilities continues, each company is considering introducing large electric furnaces. There is a possibility that this decision will be made in the near future and capital investment will begin, but even in that case, it is thought that the timing of capital expenditure will be spread over multiple years, and the use of subsidies is also expected. There is little concern that the financial structure will deteriorate rapidly.

Rationale

Issuer: NIPPON STEEL CORPORATION

<Affirmation>

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Long-term Issuer Rating: | AA |
| Outlook: | Stable |
| Bonds: | AA |
| Bonds (Dated subordinated bonds): | A+ |
| Subordinated Loan: | A+ |
| Shelf Registration: | Preliminary AA |
| CP: | J-1+ |

- (1) NIPPON STEEL CORPORATION (the "Company") has a strong business base, including high technological capabilities, sales force, and excellent customer base. It has a broad range of highly competitive products. As Japan's largest steelmaker, the Company is the leader in the Japanese steel industry and has one of the world's highest production capacities. It is strengthening its overseas business with the long-term goal of achieving a global crude steel production capacity of 100 million tons and consolidated business profit of 1 trillion yen. In December 2023, it announced that it would acquire U.S. Steel (USS), the third largest crude steel producer in the United States, for a total of approximately 2 trillion yen. It is continuing to coordinate with the relevant authorities in the United States and other parties with the aim of closing the deal as soon as possible.
- (2) The Company is expected to be able to maintain its strong earnings power. The performances of the parent company's domestic steel business and steel-related group companies have been strong, due to factors such as fixed cost reductions through optimization of the production system and promotion of price revisions for the tied transactions. In the medium term, further reductions in fixed costs through production facility structural measures, improvements in product mix through increased production of high value-added products, and growth in overseas businesses are expected. In addition, financial improvements have been made, backed by an increase in equity attributable to owners of the parent due to strong business performance. Based on the above, JCR has affirmed the ratings with Stable outlook.
- (3) The acquisition of USS is a major point of interest, but JCR has determined at this time that there is no need to immediately change the rating. If the acquisition is completed, it will greatly strengthen the Company's business base in the United States, the world's largest consumer of high-grade steel. Although the acquisition will place a burden on the finances, it is expected that the Company will be able to maintain a certain level of financial structure through measures such as the conversion of convertible bonds into shares and the use of hybrid finance. If the acquisition is unsuccessful, the Company will have to pay a penalty, but the scale of the penalty is not large enough to put downward pressure on the rating. Although the Company will need to restructure its overseas growth strategy, JCR does not believe that will have a significant impact on its current strong business base and earnings power.

- (4) The Company forecasts that its business profit for the fiscal year ending March 2025 (FY2024) will be 700 billion yen (down 19.5% year-on-year). It forecasts a reduction in the profit due to factors such as the continued slump in margins in overseas markets and increased personnel investment costs, but it is expected to maintain a high level profit compared to the period before FY2020. The Company has been reforming its production structure, including the recent start of reorganization of its domestic electric resistance-welded pipe and tube business, in addition to the scheduled shutdown of the one series of upstream facilities in the East Nippon Works Kashima Area by around the end of FY2024. From FY2025 onwards, it is highly likely that the business profit, excluding inventory valuation differences, will remain at a high level, due to effects of cost reductions of the above measures and an increase in sales of electrical steel sheets, where the Company is proceeding with capacity expansion, as well as expansion of overseas operations in countries such as India.
- (5) The Company's financial management is conducted in a disciplined manner. In recent years, equity attributable to owners of the parent has increased significantly due to factors such as capital accumulation of profits, and its financial structure is on an improving trend. Its DER (after taking into account the equity content of hybrid financing) at the end of FY2023 was 0.5x. The Company has subsequently implemented a new hybrid financing in June, and conversion of convertible bonds into shares was completed in September. By implementing other additional measures, it is expected that the DER (the same as above) after the acquisition of USS will be kept in 0.7x range.

Issuer: JFE Holdings, Inc.

<Affirmation>

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Long-term Issuer Rating: | AA- |
| Outlook: | Stable |
| Bonds: | AA- |
| Bonds (Dated subordinated bonds): | A |
| Subordinated Loan: | A |
| Shelf Registration: | Preliminary AA- |
| CP: | J-1+ |

Issuer: JFE Steel Corporation

<Affirmation>

| | |
|--------------------------|--------|
| Long-term Issuer Rating: | AA- |
| Outlook: | Stable |

- (1) JFE Holdings, Inc. (the "Company") is the holding company of the JFE Group, one of the two largest steel groups in Japan. JFE Steel is the core operating company of the JFE Group. It has high technological capabilities, a large number of high value-added products centered on steel sheets, and an excellent customer base in Japan and overseas. JFE Steel's strength lies in its efficient production system, with production using blast furnaces at its large-scale West Japan Works and urban East Japan Works. The Company has been promoting structural reforms and been shifting from quantity to quality, including the reduction of production capacity by shuttering the upstream processes at the Keihin District in its East Japan Works in September 2023. Overseas, it aims to expand its business by providing solutions that leverage knowledge, skills, and data, including collaboration with an equity-method affiliate in India, JSW Steel (in which it holds a 15.0% stake).
- (2) It is expected that the Company over the medium term will be able to maintain the earnings power at the same level as in the fiscal year ended March 2024 (FY2023). The Company is focusing on passing on increases in costs such as logistics and labor costs to sales prices and expanding sales of high value-added products. It has also progressed reduction of fixed costs through structural reforms including reduction of production capacity, and it has a structure that can secure profits even as crude steel production declines. The profit level of businesses other than the steel business has also increased compared to the past. In addition, the financial structure has improved against the backdrop of capital accumulation of profits and the use of equity finance. Based on the above, JCR has affirmed the ratings with Stable outlook.
- (3) The Company forecasts that its business profit (IFRS) for FY2024 will be 260 billion yen (down 12.8% year-on-year), but excluding the impact of inventory valuation differences, etc., the Company is expected to secure an increase in the profit. Although crude steel production will decrease, cost reductions, including the effect of structural reforms due to the suspension of upstream process in the Keihin area, will contribute to the increase. It is expected that profits will be solidly secured from FY2025 onwards. This is because sales of high value-added products, such as high-grade non-

oriented electrical steel sheets, for which the Company is gradually enhancing the production capacity, large and heavy steel plate for off-shore wind power generation business and grain oriented electrical steel sheets through the joint venture with JSW Steel, are expected to expand.

- (4) The Company's equity ratio attributable to owners of the parent was 47.2% (after taking into account the equity content of hybrid financing) and its DER was 0.6x (the same as above) at the end of FY2023, indicating a sound financial structure. The Company plans to increase investment and loans to reduce CO2 emissions, and is considering replacing one blast furnace, for the time of repair is scheduled for 2027, with large, high-efficiency electric arc furnaces. There is a strong possibility that the amount of capital investment in the future will be higher than in the past, but based on the outlook for cash flow generation capability, etc., it is thought that the Company will be able to maintain the stable financial base.

Issuer: Kobe Steel, Ltd.

<Affirmation>

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| Long-term Issuer Rating: | A |
| Outlook: | Stable |
| Bonds: | A |
| Shelf Registration: | Preliminary A |
| CP: | J-1 |

- (1) Kobe Steel, Ltd. (the "Company") as KOBELCO Group is engaged in seven business segments: steel & aluminum, advanced materials, and welding in the materials business; machinery, engineering, and construction machinery in the machinery business; and the electric power business. Its strength lies in its comprehensive capabilities that develop a wide range of diverse businesses. In the medium-term management plan starting from the fiscal year ending March 2025 (FY2024), the Company is focusing on "Enhance earning power" in the materials business and "Pursuing growth" in the machinery business, based on ROIC management, continuing from the previous medium-term plan.
- (2) It is expected that the Company will be able to secure an ordinary income of over 100 billion yen for the time being. Although it is necessary to pay attention to trends in the improvement of profitability of aluminum related products for automobiles, the stability of performance in the materials business as a whole, including steel, has increased. In the machinery business, there are significant business opportunities in carbon neutral related businesses, and orders for machinery and engineering are strong. In the electric power business, six power generation facilities are in operation, providing a stable source of revenue. In addition, the Company's financial position is sound, and it has been improving in recent years. Based on the above, JCR has affirmed the ratings with Stable outlook.
- (3) The Company forecasts that its ordinary profit for FY2024 will be 150 billion yen (down 6.8% year-on-year), which is at a higher level than in previous years a couple of years ago. Although the profit will decline due mainly to the one-off elimination of factors for profit such as fuel cost adjustments for the electric power business, the loss disposition of aluminum related business for automobiles has begun to come to an end, and this will have a positive effect on its performance. It is highly likely that the Company will be able to secure the current level of profit from FY2025 onwards. In the materials business, an increase in sales of steel plates, for which the Company has carried out facility replacement, is expected, and orders for steel castings and forgings and titanium are also going well. In the machinery business, it is necessary to keep an eye on trends in sales of construction machinery, but orders are increasing, driven by the petrochemicals and energy related for the machinery and by the reduced iron related for the engineering.
- (4) The Company's equity ratio was 36.2% and its DER was 0.9x at the end of FY2023, both of which have significantly improved from the recent lows of 27.2% and 1.5x, respectively, at the end of FY2019. Under its medium-term management plan, the Company plans to make business investments equivalent to its operating cash flow over the three years to FY2026, and also to make major decisions on investments such as carbon neutral investments in steel and electricity. There is a strong possibility that medium- to long-term capital investment will remain at a higher level than in the past, but these investments will be made based on factors such as the outlook for ROIC in light of changes in the business environment. Therefore, there is little concern that investments will significantly exceed cash inflows and that the financial structure will deteriorate significantly.

Masayoshi Mizukawa, Yosuke Sato

Rating

Issuer: NIPPON STEEL CORPORATION

<Affirmation>

Long-term Issuer Rating: AA Outlook: Stable

| Issue | Amount (JPY bn) | Issue Date yyyy.mm.dd | Due Date yyyy.mm.dd | Coupon (%) | Rating |
|------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|---------------|--------|
| Bonds no. 2 | 30 | 2019.06.14 | 2026.06.19 | 0.240 | AA |
| Bonds no. 3 | 20 | 2019.06.14 | 2029.06.20 | 0.279 | AA |
| Bonds no. 5 | 30 | 2020.06.17 | 2025.06.20 | 0.230 | AA |
| Bonds no. 6 | 10 | 2020.06.17 | 2030.06.20 | 0.420 | AA |
| Bonds no. 7 (green bonds) | 30 | 2023.03.09 | 2028.03.17 | 0.564 | AA |
| Bonds no. 8 (green bonds) | 20 | 2023.03.09 | 2033.03.18 | 1.150 | AA |
| Bonds no. 1* | 10 | 2016.09.26 | 2026.09.18 | 0.28 | AA |
| Bonds no. 2* | 10 | 2016.09.26 | 2031.09.19 | 0.64 | AA |
| Bonds no. 4* | 10 | 2017.05.25 | 2027.05.20 | 0.375 | AA |
| Bonds no. 5* | 10 | 2017.12.08 | 2024.12.20 | 0.230 | AA |
| Bonds no. 6* | 10 | 2017.12.08 | 2027.12.20 | 0.350 | AA |
| Bonds no. 8* | 20 | 2018.06.12 | 2025.06.20 | 0.250 | AA |
| Bonds no. 9* | 20 | 2018.06.12 | 2028.06.20 | 0.385 | AA |
| Bonds no. 59** | 10 | 2008.09.02 | 2028.06.20 | 2.491 | AA |

| Issue | Amount (bn) | Issue Date | Due Date | Coupon | Rating |
|--|-------------|----------------|----------------|----------|--------|
| 2nd Series Deferrable Interest and Callable Unsecured Subordinated Bonds | JPY 30 | Sept. 12, 2019 | Sept. 12, 2079 | (Note 1) | A+ |
| 3rd Series Deferrable Interest and Callable Unsecured Subordinated Bonds | JPY 200 | Sept. 12, 2019 | Sept. 12, 2079 | (Note 2) | A+ |
| 4th Series Deferrable Interest and Callable Unsecured Subordinated Bonds | JPY 67.5 | June 13, 2024 | June 13, 2059 | (Note 3) | A+ |
| 5th Series Deferrable Interest and Callable Unsecured Subordinated Bonds | JPY 20 | June 13, 2024 | June 13, 2061 | (Note 4) | A+ |
| 6th Series Deferrable Interest and Callable Unsecured Subordinated Bonds | JPY 80 | June 13, 2024 | June 13, 2064 | (Note 5) | A+ |

* Issued by NIPPON STEEL & SUMITOMO METAL CORPORATION

** Issued by Nippon Steel Corporation

Notes:

- 0.93% from Sept. 13, 2019 to Sept. 12, 2026. Base Interest Rate + 1.05% from Sept. 13, 2026 to Sept. 12, 2029. Base Interest Rate + 1.30% from Sept. 13, 2029 to Sept. 12, 2046. Base Interest Rate + 2.05% after that date.
- 1.24% from Sept. 13, 2019 to Sept. 12, 2029. Base Interest Rate + 1.55% from Sept. 13, 2029 to Sept. 12, 2049. Base Interest Rate + 2.30% after that date.
- 1.534% from June 14, 2024 until June 13, 2029. Floating rate of 1-year JGB interest rate + 1.000% from June 14, 2029 until June 13, 2034. Floating rate of 1-year JGB interest rate + 1.250% from June 14, 2034 until June 13, 2049. Floating rate of 1-year JGB interest rate + 2.000% after that date.
- 1.882% from June 14, 2024 until June 13, 2031. Floating rate of 1-year JGB interest rate + 1.200% from June 14, 2031 until June 13, 2034. Floating rate of 1-year JGB interest rate + 1.450% from June 14, 2034 until June 13, 2051. Floating rate of 1-year JGB interest rate + 2.200% after that date.
- 2.328% from June 14, 2023 until June 13, 2034. Floating rate of 1-year JGB interest rate + 1.620% from June 14, 2034 until June 13, 2054. 1-year JGB interest rate + 2.370% after that date.

| Issue | Amount (bn) | Execution Date | Repayment Date | Interest Rate | Rating |
|--|-------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|--------|
| Subordinated Loan dated July 2, 2020 (Tranche A) | JPY 300 | July 21, 2020 | July 22, 2080 | (Note 1) | A+ |
| Subordinated Loan dated July 2, 2020 (Tranche B) | JPY 150 | July 21, 2020 | July 22, 2080 | (Note 2) | A+ |
| Subordinated Loan (Tranche A) | JPY 26 | June 13, 2024 | June 13, 2059 | (Note 3) | A+ |
| Subordinated Loan (Tranche B) | JPY 33 | June 13, 2024 | June 13, 2064 | (Note 4) | A+ |

Subordinated Loan (Tranche C)

JPY23.5

June 13, 2024

June 13, 2064

(Note 5)

A+

Notes:

1. 6M TIBOR + initial spread from the borrowing date (inclusive) to the corresponding date (exclusive) 10 years later; 6M TIBOR + initial spread + 0.25% step-up interest rate from the corresponding date (inclusive) of the borrowing date 10 years later to the corresponding date (exclusive) of the borrowing date 25 years later; and 6M TIBOR + initial spread + 1.00% step-up interest rate on and after the corresponding date 25 years later.
2. 6M TIBOR + initial spread from the borrowing date (inclusive) to the corresponding date (exclusive) 10 years later; 6M TIBOR + initial spread + 0.25% step-up interest rate from the corresponding date (inclusive) of the borrowing date 10 years later to the corresponding date (exclusive) of the borrowing date 27 years later; and 6M TIBOR + initial spread + 1.00% step-up interest rate on and after the corresponding date 27 years later.
3. Floating rate of base rate of the relevant period + initial spread for the interest period starting on any date from the Execution Date (including the this date) to June 2034 (excluding this month). Floating rate of base rate of the relevant period + initial spread + 0.25% step-up interest rate for the interest period starting on any date from June 2034 (including this month) to June 2049 (excluding this month). Floating rate of base rate of the relevant period + initial spread + 1.00% step-up interest for the interest period starting on any date after June 2049 (including this month).
4. Floating rate of base rate of the relevant period + initial spread for the interest period starting on any date from the Execution Date (including this date) to June 2034 (excluding this month). Floating rate of base rate of the relevant period + initial spread + 0.25% step-up interest rate for the interest period starting on any date from June 2034 (including this month) to June 2054 (excluding this month). Floating rate of base rate of the relevant period + initial spread + 1.00% step-up interest for the interest period starting on any date after June 2054 (including this month).
5. Fixed rate of base rate of the relevant period + initial spread for the interest period starting on any date from the Execution Date (including this date) to June 2034 (excluding this month). Floating rate of base rate of the relevant period + initial spread + 0.25% step-up interest rate for the interest period starting on any date from June 2034 (including this month) to June 2054 (excluding this month). Floating rate of base rate of the relevant period + initial spread + 1.00% step-up interest for the interest period starting on any date after June 2054 (including this month).

Shelf Registration: Preliminary AA

Maximum: JPY 450 billion

Valid: Two years effective from August 3, 2023

CP: J-1+

Maximum: JPY 900 billion

Issuer: JFE Holdings, Inc.

<Affirmation>

Long-term Issuer Rating: AA-

Outlook: Stable

| Issue | Amount (JPY bn) | Issue Date yyyy.mm.dd | Due Date yyyy.mm.dd | Coupon (%) | Rating |
|--|--------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|---------------|--------|
| Bonds no. 25 | 20 | 2018.05.21 | 2025.05.21 | 0.260 | AA- |
| Bonds no. 28 | 10 | 2019.05.27 | 2026.05.27 | 0.260 | AA- |
| Bonds no. 29 | 20 | 2019.05.27 | 2029.05.25 | 0.365 | AA- |
| Bonds no. 31 | 30 | 2019.09.20 | 2026.09.18 | 0.250 | AA- |
| Bonds no. 32 | 20 | 2019.09.20 | 2029.09.20 | 0.320 | AA- |
| Bonds no. 34 | 30 | 2020.07.14 | 2025.07.14 | 0.250 | AA- |
| Bonds no. 35 | 10 | 2020.07.14 | 2030.07.12 | 0.470 | AA- |
| Bonds no. 36 (transition bonds) | 25 | 2022.06.09 | 2027.06.09 | 0.330 | AA- |
| Bonds no. 37 (transition bonds) | 5 | 2022.06.09 | 2032.06.09 | 0.579 | AA- |
| Bonds no. 38 (transition bonds) | 15 | 2024.07.10 | 2029.07.10 | 0.823 | AA- |
| 1st Series Deferrable Interest and Callable Unsecured Subordinated Bonds | 35 | 2021.06.10 | 2081.06.10 | (Note) | A |

Note: Fixed interest rate of 0.68% until and including June 10, 2027. Base Interest Rate + 0.65% from June 11, 2027 to June 10, 2031. Base Interest Rate + 0.95% from June 11, 2031 to June 10, 2047. Base Interest Rate + 1.65% from June 11, 2047 onward.

| Issue | Amount (JPY bn) | Execution Date yyyy.mm.dd | Repayment Date yyyy.mm.dd | Interest Rate | Rating |
|--|--------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------|--------|
| Loan agreement dated June 15, 2016 (Tranche B) | 67.5 | 2016.06.30 | 2076.06.30 | (Note 1) | A |
| Loan agreement dated June 15, 2016 (Tranche C) | 64.0 | 2016.06.30 | 2076.06.30 | (Note 2) | A |
| Loan agreement dated June 15, 2016 (Tranche D) | 36.0 | 2016.06.30 | 2076.06.30 | (Note 3) | A |
| Loan agreement dated Feb. 16, 2018 (Tranche B) | 100.0 | 2018.03.19 | 2078.03.19 | (Note 4) | A |
| Subordinated Loan | 205.0 | 2023.03.20 | 2083.03.20 | (Note 5) | A |

Notes:

1. Base Interest Rate + initial spread for interest periods from loan execution to June 30, 2026. Base Interest Rate + initial spread + 1.00% step-up interest rate for interest periods starting on or after June 30, 2026.
2. 10-year swap interest rate + initial spread for interest periods from loan execution to June 30, 2026. Base Interest Rate + initial spread + 1.00% step-up interest rate for interest periods starting on or after June 30, 2026.
3. Predetermined fixed interest rate for interest periods from loan execution to June 30, 2026. Base Interest Rate + initial spread + 1.00% step-up interest rate for interest periods starting on or after June 30, 2026.
4. Base Interest Rate + initial spread for interest periods from loan execution to March 19, 2028. Base Interest Rate + initial spread + 1.00% step-up interest rate for interest periods starting on or after March 19, 2028.
5. 3M JPY TIBOR + initial spread for the interest calculation periods from the Execution Date to March 2033. 3M JPY TIBOR + initial spread + 0.30% step-up interest rate for the interest calculation periods from March 2033 to March 2050. 3M JPY TIBOR + initial spread + 1.00% step-up interest rate for the interest calculation periods beginning in or after March 2050.

Shelf Registration: Preliminary AA-

Maximum: JPY 300 billion

Valid: Two years effective from July 8, 2023

CP: J-1+

Maximum: JPY 600 billion

Issuer: JFE Steel Corporation

<Affirmation>

Long-term Issuer Rating: AA- Outlook: Stable

Issuer: Kobe Steel, Ltd.

<Affirmation>

Long-term Issuer Rating: A Outlook: Stable

| Issue | Amount (JPY bn) | Issue Date yyyy.mm.dd | Due Date yyyy.mm.dd | Coupon (%) | Rating |
|--------------|--------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|---------------|--------|
| Bonds no. 63 | 25 | 2015.05.21 | 2025.05.21 | 0.924 | A |
| Bonds no. 65 | 10 | 2015.08.27 | 2025.08.27 | 0.815 | A |
| Bonds no. 67 | 10 | 2021.06.10 | 2026.06.10 | 0.200 | A |
| Bonds no. 68 | 12 | 2023.06.08 | 2028.06.08 | 0.545 | A |
| Bonds no. 69 | 8 | 2023.06.08 | 2033.06.08 | 1.000 | A |
| Bonds no. 70 | 10 | 2024.04.25 | 2029.04.25 | 0.871 | A |
| Bonds no. 71 | 10 | 2024.04.25 | 2034.04.25 | 1.417 | A |

Shelf Registration: Preliminary A

Maximum: JPY 200 billion

Valid: Two years effective from July 7, 2024

CP: J-1

Maximum: JPY 200 billion

Rating Assignment Date: September 25, 2024

The assumptions for the credit ratings and the definitions of the rating symbols are published as "Types of Credit Ratings and Definitions of Rating Symbols" (January 6, 2014) in Information about JCR Ratings on JCR's website (<https://www.jcr.co.jp/en/>).

Outline of the rating methodology is shown as "JCR's Rating Methodology" (February 1, 2024), "Iron & Steel" (June 15, 2022), "Rating Viewpoints on Pure Holding Companies (Domestic Industrial Corporations)" (July 1, 2003), "Rating Methodology for a Holding Company" (January 26, 2015), "Rating Methodology for Group Companies of Corporate Group" (September 1, 2022) and "Ratings of Hybrid Securities" (September 10, 2012) in Information about JCR Ratings on JCR's website (<https://www.jcr.co.jp/en/>).

The rating stakeholder participated in the rating process of the aforementioned credit ratings.

A preliminary rating is a credit rating assigned as a preliminary evaluation while material terms for issue to be rated are not yet finalized. When the issuing terms are finalized, JCR will confirm them and will assign a credit rating anew. The rating level of the final rating may be different from that of the preliminary rating, depending on the final content of the terms, etc.

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JCR publishes its press releases regarding the rating actions both in Japanese and in English on the same day. In case that it takes time to translate rating rationale, JCR may publicize the summary version, which will be replaced by the full translated version within three business days. (Regarding Structured Finance products, JCR only publicize the summary version in English.)



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE FORM

Japan Credit Rating Agency, Ltd.

Disclosure Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii) of Rule 17g-7

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Issuer: | NIPPON STEEL CORPORATION |
| Rating Publication Date: | September 30, 2024 |

1

The Symbol, Number, or Score in the Rating Scale used to Denote Credit Rating Categories and Notches and, the Identity of the Obligor or the Identity and a Description of the Security or Money Market Instrument as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(A) of Rule 17g-7

- Please see the news release. If the credit rating is a private rating, please see the report for private rating.

2

The version of the procedure or methodology used to determine the credit rating; as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(B) of Rule 17g-7

- Please see the news release. If the credit rating is a private rating, please see the report for private rating.

3

The Main Assumptions and Principles used in Constructing the Procedures and Methodologies used to Determine the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(C) of Rule 17g-7

- The credit rating methodology assumes, in principle, to be applied to assess the likelihood of a given debt payment in light of its issuer's condition and business environment, etc. in the relevant future. There is certain limitation, however, in the time horizon that the rating foresees.
- The credit rating methodology assumes, in principle, that the factors posted in the below are particularly important for such likelihood to be determined, and that the rating determination is made by evaluating each of them not only quantitatively but also employing qualitative analyses.

A) Business Bases

The likelihood of a given debt payment is highly conditional to its issuer's business bases - how they can be maintained/ expanded into the future and thereby secure earnings and cash flows in adequacy and in a sustainable way.

B) Financial Grounds and Asset Quality

The likelihood of debt payment is highly dependent on the degree of the issuer's indebtedness and loss absorption capacity in terms of equity capital. Also notable is that a financial institution might see a significant loss of financial grounds as a result of changes in value of the assets under its possession.

C) Liquidity Positions

The likelihood of debt payment is highly dependent on the adequacy of the issuer's cash and other sources of repayment (liquidity positions).

D) Related Parties' Status and Stance of Support/ Assistance for the Issuer

The likelihood of debt payment is affected one way or the other by the issuer's related parties such as parent company, subsidiary, guarantor, and the government of the issuer's business domicile, etc. - by their own conditions and/ or position of support/ assistance for the issuer.

E) Order of Seniority in Debt Payment

The likelihood of debt payment can be different between given debts of the same issuer. The likelihood of debt payment for an individual debt is dependent on the issuer's discretion, and/ or its rank relative to other debts of the same issuer in the order of seniority in principal/ interest payment which is determined by design as financial product or by laws, etc.

4 The Potential Limitations of the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(D) of Rule 17g-7

- The credit rating herewith presented by JCR is its summary opinion with regard to the likelihood of given debt payment and hence not necessarily a perfect representation of such likelihood. The credit rating is not intended to estimate the probability of default or the loss on given default, either.
- The objective of the credit rating herewith presented does not include any concerns other than the likelihood of debt payment, such as risks of price changes, market liquidity, etc.
- The credit rating herewith presented is necessary to be reviewed along with possible changes of the issuer of rated objects in its business performance and/ or circumstances which include regulatory environment, and hence subject to possible alteration.

5 Information on the Uncertainty of the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(E) of Rule 17g-7

- The information used for the determination of credit rating as herewith presented is obtained by JCR from the issuer of rated objects and other sources that JCR trusts in terms of accuracy and reliability but possibly contains errors due to human, non-human or other causes. Consequently, the credit rating determined on the grounds of such information does not constitute, explicitly or implicitly, any representation or warrant of JCR on the information itself or any consequences of its use in terms of accuracy, relevance, timeliness, wholeness, market value, or usefulness for any specific purposes.

6 Use of Due Diligence Services of a Third Party in Taking the Rating Action as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(F) of Rule 17g-7

- There is no use of any third-party due diligence service in the determination of the credit rating herewith presented.

7 Use of Servicer or Remittance Reports to Conduct Surveillance of the Credit Rating Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(G) of Rule 17g-7

- There is no use of any servicer or remittance report to conduct surveillance of the credit rating herewith presented.

8 The Types of Data Relied Upon for the Purpose of Determining the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(H) of Rule 17g-7

- The information posted in the below, which includes data, is used for the determination of the credit rating herewith presented.

A) Audited financial statements presented by the rating stakeholders

B) Explanations of business performance, management plans, etc. presented by the rating stakeholders

9 Overall assessment of the Quality of Information Available and Considered in Determining the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(I) of Rule 17g-7

- JCR holds its basic policies for securing the quality of information as a base of due diligence for the determination of credit ratings. The information used as a base for the determination of credit rating herewith presented satisfies such policies, which include the audit by an independent auditor, the warranty made by the issuer, the publication by the issuer, some independent media or, otherwise, JCR analyst's scrutiny, etc.
- JCR sees no particular weakness in the quality of information used for the determination of the credit rating herewith presented as compared to the information used in other cases of the credit rating for comparable issuers or ratable objects.
- If the credit rating is an Indication, please see the report for Indication.

10 Information Relating to Conflicts of Interest as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(J) of Rule 17g-7

- JCR receives payment of compensation for the determination of the credit rating herewith presented from either one of those parties who are issuer, underwriter, depositor or sponsor.
- JCR did not receive in the last fiscal year in the past payment of compensation from the same party for any kind of JCR's service other than the determination of public or private credit rating, such as one in the ancillary business.

11 Explanation or Measure of the Potential Volatility of the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(K) of Rule 17g-7

A) Business Bases

The credit rating is subject to alteration if there is improvement or deterioration of the issuer's business bases, since its revenue, etc. may improve or deteriorate by the change in its business management policies, clients' preferences, competitive situation, or a technological innovation. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually by a notch, with possibility of a few notches if and when the change in the business bases is large.

B) Financial Grounds and Asset Quality

The credit rating is subject to alteration if the issuer increases/ decreases its debt/ capital or vice versa and thereby makes its individual debt payment liability less or more bearable and its loss absorption capacity into the future decreased or increased. Also, the changes in the quality of asset under the issuer's holding may affect the credit rating, since such changes could raise or lower the likelihood of future loss of the issuer's financial grounds. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually by a notch, with possibility of a few notches if and when the change in the financial grounds and/ or asset quality is large.

C) Liquidity Positions

The credit rating is subject to alteration if there is a change in the issuer's financial management policy or in the relations with fund procurement sources and the change thereby makes its liquidity positions improve or deteriorate. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually by a notch, with possibility of a few notches if and when the change is large.

D) Related Parties' Status and Stance of Support/ Assistance for the Issuer

The credit rating is subject to alteration if there is a change in the issuer's parent company or subsidiary, guarantor or other provider of credit enhancement, or the government of the issuer's business domicile, or other related parties' own conditions and/ or position of support/ assistance for the issuer, and the change thereby makes its business bases, financial grounds and/ or liquidity positions improve or deteriorate, and/ or making the effectiveness of guarantee and other credit enhancement improve or deteriorate. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually a notch, with possibility of a few notches if and when the change is large.

E) Order of Seniority in Debt Payment and Non-Payment Forgiven by Contract

The credit rating is subject to alteration if there is a change in the rated debt's status in the order of seniority relative to other debts caused by the improvement/ deterioration of the issuer's financial condition. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually a notch, with possibility of a few notches if and when the change is large. Also, in case of the financial products for which non-payment of interest/ principal is contractually permissible, the credit rating is subject to alteration if and when the likelihood of such non-payment is projected to increase or decrease. The resultant alteration of the credit rating could be by a notch but often as much as a few notches.

F) Rise and Fall in General Economy and Markets

The credit rating is subject to alteration if there is a rise/ fall in the general economy and/ or the markets inducing the issuer's revenues/ expenses to increase/ decrease and vice versa, etc. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually by a notch, with possibility of a few notches if and when the change is exceptionally large.

G) Various Events

The credit rating is subject to alteration on occurrence of various events, such as change in the issuer's major shareholders, M&A and other organizational change, accident, violation of the law, litigation, legal/ regulatory change, natural disaster, etc., which are unforeseeable at the time when the credit rating is determined, causing a significant change on the issuer's business bases, financial grounds, etc. The resultant alteration of the credit rating could be by a notch but more often than not as much as a few notches.

12

Information on the Content of the Credit Rating, Including the Historical Performance of the Credit Rating and the Expected Probability of Default and the Expected Loss in the Event of Default as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(L) of Rule 17g-7

- Historical records of the credit rating herewith presented are posted in the end of this paper.
- The credit rating herewith presented by JCR is its summary opinion with regard to the likelihood of given debt payment and hence not necessarily a perfect representation of such likelihood. The credit rating is not intended to estimate the probability of default or the loss on given default, either.
- Facts of the probability of default are posted as Form NRSRO Exhibit 1 on the JCR website under the URL:

<https://www.jcr.co.jp/en/service/company/regu/nrsro/>

13

Information on the Sensitivity of the Credit Rating to Assumptions Made as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(M) of Rule 17g-7

A) Business Bases

The credit rating herewith presented could be changed if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turn out to be inaccurate with regard to the issuer's business bases and powers of earning or cash flow generation, etc. The resultant change of the credit rating is most likely by a notch, as JCR speculates, but possibly as much as a few notches if the development is rapid in improvement or deterioration of the issuer's business bases on some drastic change in the operational environments, etc.

B) Financial Grounds and Asset Quality

The credit rating herewith presented could be changed if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turn out to be inaccurate with regard to the issuer's financial grounds and asset quality. The resultant change of the credit rating is most likely by a notch, as JCR speculates, but

possibly as much as a few notches if the development is rapid in improvement or deterioration of the issuer's financial grounds and/ or asset quality on some drastic change in its business bases.

C) Liquidity Risks

The credit rating herewith presented could be changed if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turn out to be inaccurate with regard to the issuer's liquidity positions. The resultant change of the credit rating is most likely by a notch, as JCR speculates, but possibly as much as a few notches if the development is rapid in improvement or deterioration of the issuer's liquidity positions on some drastic change in its financial management policy or relations with fund procurement sources, etc.

D) Order of Seniority in Debt Payment and Non-Payment Forgiven by Contract

The credit rating herewith presented could be changed if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turn out to be inaccurate with regard to the order of seniority in repayment of interests and principal. JCR assumes the resultant change of the credit rating is most likely by a notch. The change could be as much as a few notches if the issuer's financial structure differs so much and thereby the balance between debts shifted so greatly. Rating change is also possible in case of the financial products for which non-payment of interest/ principal is contractually permissible, if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turns out to be inaccurate. The change of the credit rating is assumed to be by a notch but often as much as a few notches.

E) Rise and Fall in General Economy and Markets

The credit rating herewith presented could be changed if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turn out to be inaccurate with regard to the prospects of general economy and markets. JCR expects the change should be most likely by a notch but could be as much as a few notches, should the economy or the markets change so greatly.

14

Information on the Representations, Warranties, and Enforcement Mechanisms of an Asset-backed Security as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(N) of rule 17g-7

- The credit rating herewith presented is not for an ABS product, and hence no relevant issue.

Japan Credit Rating Agency, Ltd.

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The Historical Performance of the Credit Rating

| Issuer Name | Issue Name | Publication Date | Rating | Outlook/Direction |
|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------|-------------------|
| NIPPON STEEL | Issuer(Long-term) | March 22, 2006 | AA | Positive |
| NIPPON STEEL | Issuer(Long-term) | October 18, 2006 | AA | Positive |
| NIPPON STEEL | Issuer(Long-term) | October 4, 2007 | AA | Positive |
| NIPPON STEEL | Issuer(Long-term) | October 7, 2008 | AA | Positive |
| NIPPON STEEL | Issuer(Long-term) | October 23, 2009 | AA | Stable |
| NIPPON STEEL | Issuer(Long-term) | October 5, 2010 | AA | Stable |
| NIPPON STEEL | Issuer(Long-term) | October 5, 2011 | AA | Stable |
| NIPPON STEEL | Issuer(Long-term) | September 27, 2012 | AA- | Stable |
| NIPPON STEEL | Issuer(Long-term) | October 1, 2012 | AA- | Stable |
| NIPPON STEEL | Issuer(Long-term) | October 7, 2013 | AA- | Stable |
| NIPPON STEEL | Issuer(Long-term) | September 30, 2014 | AA- | Stable |
| NIPPON STEEL | Issuer(Long-term) | October 5, 2015 | AA- | Stable |
| NIPPON STEEL | Issuer(Long-term) | September 15, 2016 | AA- | Stable |
| NIPPON STEEL | Issuer(Long-term) | October 5, 2017 | AA- | Stable |
| NIPPON STEEL | Issuer(Long-term) | October 16, 2018 | AA- | Stable |
| NIPPON STEEL | Issuer(Long-term) | October 4, 2019 | AA- | Stable |
| NIPPON STEEL | Issuer(Long-term) | September 30, 2020 | AA- | Negative |
| NIPPON STEEL | Issuer(Long-term) | October 6, 2021 | AA- | Stable |
| NIPPON STEEL | Issuer(Long-term) | October 4, 2022 | AA- | Stable |
| NIPPON STEEL | Issuer(Long-term) | October 10, 2023 | AA | Stable |
| NIPPON STEEL | CP | March 22, 2006 | J-1+ | |
| NIPPON STEEL | CP | October 18, 2006 | J-1+ | |
| NIPPON STEEL | CP | October 4, 2007 | J-1+ | |
| NIPPON STEEL | CP | March 31, 2008 | J-1+ | |
| NIPPON STEEL | CP | October 7, 2008 | J-1+ | |
| NIPPON STEEL | CP | October 23, 2009 | J-1+ | |
| NIPPON STEEL | CP | October 5, 2010 | J-1+ | |
| NIPPON STEEL | CP | October 5, 2011 | J-1+ | |
| NIPPON STEEL | CP | September 27, 2012 | J-1+ | |
| NIPPON STEEL | CP | October 1, 2012 | J-1+ | |
| NIPPON STEEL | CP | October 7, 2013 | J-1+ | |
| NIPPON STEEL | CP | September 30, 2014 | J-1+ | |
| NIPPON STEEL | CP | October 5, 2015 | J-1+ | |
| NIPPON STEEL | CP | September 15, 2016 | J-1+ | |
| NIPPON STEEL | CP | October 5, 2017 | J-1+ | |
| NIPPON STEEL | CP | October 16, 2018 | J-1+ | |
| NIPPON STEEL | CP | October 4, 2019 | J-1+ | |
| NIPPON STEEL | CP | September 30, 2020 | J-1+ | |
| NIPPON STEEL | CP | October 6, 2021 | J-1+ | |
| NIPPON STEEL | CP | October 4, 2022 | J-1+ | |
| NIPPON STEEL | CP | October 10, 2023 | J-1+ | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Shelf Registration | August 3, 2023 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Shelf Registration | October 10, 2023 | AA | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.59 | August 27, 2008 | AA | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.59 | October 7, 2008 | AA | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.59 | October 23, 2009 | AA | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.59 | October 5, 2010 | AA | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.59 | October 5, 2011 | AA | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.59 | September 27, 2012 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.59 | October 1, 2012 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.59 | October 7, 2013 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.59 | September 30, 2014 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.59 | October 5, 2015 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.59 | September 15, 2016 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.59 | October 5, 2017 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.59 | October 16, 2018 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.59 | October 4, 2019 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.59 | September 30, 2020 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.59 | October 6, 2021 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.59 | October 4, 2022 | AA- | |

The Historical Performance of the Credit Rating

| Issuer Name | Issue Name | Publication Date | Rating | Outlook/Direction |
|--------------|-------------|--------------------|--------|-------------------|
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.59 | October 10, 2023 | AA | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.1 | September 15, 2016 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.1 | October 5, 2017 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.1 | October 16, 2018 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.1 | October 4, 2019 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.1 | September 30, 2020 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.1 | October 6, 2021 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.1 | October 4, 2022 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.1 | October 10, 2023 | AA | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.2 | September 15, 2016 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.2 | October 5, 2017 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.2 | October 16, 2018 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.2 | October 4, 2019 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.2 | September 30, 2020 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.2 | October 6, 2021 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.2 | October 4, 2022 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.2 | October 10, 2023 | AA | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.4 | May 16, 2017 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.4 | October 5, 2017 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.4 | October 16, 2018 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.4 | October 4, 2019 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.4 | September 30, 2020 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.4 | October 6, 2021 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.4 | October 4, 2022 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.4 | October 10, 2023 | AA | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.5 | December 1, 2017 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.5 | October 16, 2018 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.5 | October 4, 2019 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.5 | September 30, 2020 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.5 | October 6, 2021 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.5 | October 4, 2022 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.5 | October 10, 2023 | AA | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.6 | December 1, 2017 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.6 | October 16, 2018 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.6 | October 4, 2019 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.6 | September 30, 2020 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.6 | October 6, 2021 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.6 | October 4, 2022 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.6 | October 10, 2023 | AA | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.8 | June 6, 2018 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.8 | October 16, 2018 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.8 | October 4, 2019 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.8 | September 30, 2020 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.8 | October 6, 2021 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.8 | October 4, 2022 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.8 | October 10, 2023 | AA | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.9 | June 6, 2018 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.9 | October 16, 2018 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.9 | October 4, 2019 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.9 | September 30, 2020 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.9 | October 6, 2021 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.9 | October 4, 2022 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.9 | October 10, 2023 | AA | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.2 | June 6, 2019 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.2 | October 4, 2019 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.2 | September 30, 2020 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.2 | October 6, 2021 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.2 | October 4, 2022 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.2 | October 10, 2023 | AA | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.3 | June 6, 2019 | AA- | |

The Historical Performance of the Credit Rating

| Issuer Name | Issue Name | Publication Date | Rating | Outlook/Direction |
|--------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------|-------------------|
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.3 | October 4, 2019 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.3 | September 30, 2020 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.3 | October 6, 2021 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.3 | October 4, 2022 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.3 | October 10, 2023 | AA | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.2(subordinated) | September 6, 2019 | A | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.2(subordinated) | October 4, 2019 | A | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.2(subordinated) | September 30, 2020 | A | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.2(subordinated) | October 6, 2021 | A | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.2(subordinated) | October 4, 2022 | A | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.2(subordinated) | October 10, 2023 | A+ | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.3(subordinated) | September 6, 2019 | A | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.3(subordinated) | October 4, 2019 | A | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.3(subordinated) | September 30, 2020 | A | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.3(subordinated) | October 6, 2021 | A | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.3(subordinated) | October 4, 2022 | A | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.3(subordinated) | October 10, 2023 | A+ | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.5 | June 11, 2020 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.5 | September 30, 2020 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.5 | October 6, 2021 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.5 | October 4, 2022 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.5 | October 10, 2023 | AA | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.6 | June 11, 2020 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.6 | September 30, 2020 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.6 | October 6, 2021 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.6 | October 4, 2022 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.6 | October 10, 2023 | AA | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.7 | March 3, 2023 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.7 | October 10, 2023 | AA | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.8 | March 3, 2023 | AA- | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.8 | October 10, 2023 | AA | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.4(subordinated) | June 7, 2024 | A+ | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.5(subordinated) | June 7, 2024 | A+ | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Bonds no.6(subordinated) | June 7, 2024 | A+ | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Loan(subordinatd) Tranche A | July 2, 2020 | A | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Loan(subordinatd) Tranche A | September 30, 2020 | A | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Loan(subordinatd) Tranche A | October 6, 2021 | A | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Loan(subordinatd) Tranche A | October 4, 2022 | A | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Loan(subordinatd) Tranche A | October 10, 2023 | A+ | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Loan(subordinatd) Tranche B | July 2, 2020 | A | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Loan(subordinatd) Tranche B | September 30, 2020 | A | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Loan(subordinatd) Tranche B | October 6, 2021 | A | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Loan(subordinatd) Tranche B | October 4, 2022 | A | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Loan(subordinatd) Tranche B | October 10, 2023 | A+ | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Loan(subordinatd) Tranche A | May 31, 2024 | A+ | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Loan(subordinatd) Tranche B | May 31, 2024 | A+ | |
| NIPPON STEEL | Loan(subordinatd) Tranche C | May 31, 2024 | A+ | |

Attestation Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(iii) of Rule 17g-7

I, Mikiya Kubota, have responsibility to this Rating Action and to the best of my knowledge:

- A) No part of the credit rating was influenced by any other business activities.
- B) The credit rating was based solely upon the merits of the obligor, security, or money market instrument being rated.
- C) The credit rating was an independent evaluation of the credit risk of the obligor, security, or money market instrument.

窪田 幹也

Mikiya Kubota

General Manager of Corporate Rating Department I

Japan Credit Rating Agency, Ltd.

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Tel. +81 3 3544 7013, Fax. +81 3 3544 7026



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE FORM

Japan Credit Rating Agency, Ltd.

Disclosure Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii) of Rule 17g-7

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Issuer: | JFE Holdings Inc. |
| Rating Publication Date: | September 30, 2024 |

1

The Symbol, Number, or Score in the Rating Scale used to Denote Credit Rating Categories and Notches and, the Identity of the Obligor or the Identity and a Description of the Security or Money Market Instrument as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(A) of Rule 17g-7

- Please see the news release. If the credit rating is a private rating, please see the report for private rating.

2

The version of the procedure or methodology used to determine the credit rating; as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(B) of Rule 17g-7

- Please see the news release. If the credit rating is a private rating, please see the report for private rating.

3

The Main Assumptions and Principles used in Constructing the Procedures and Methodologies used to Determine the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(C) of Rule 17g-7

- The credit rating methodology assumes, in principle, to be applied to assess the likelihood of a given debt payment in light of its issuer's condition and business environment, etc. in the relevant future. There is certain limitation, however, in the time horizon that the rating foresees.
- The credit rating methodology assumes, in principle, that the factors posted in the below are particularly important for such likelihood to be determined, and that the rating determination is made by evaluating each of them not only quantitatively but also employing qualitative analyses.

A) Business Bases

The likelihood of a given debt payment is highly conditional to its issuer's business bases - how they can be maintained/ expanded into the future and thereby secure earnings and cash flows in adequacy and in a sustainable way.

B) Financial Grounds and Asset Quality

The likelihood of debt payment is highly dependent on the degree of the issuer's indebtedness and loss absorption capacity in terms of equity capital. Also notable is that a financial institution might see a significant loss of financial grounds as a result of changes in value of the assets under its possession.

C) Liquidity Positions

The likelihood of debt payment is highly dependent on the adequacy of the issuer's cash and other sources of repayment (liquidity positions).

D) Related Parties' Status and Stance of Support/ Assistance for the Issuer

The likelihood of debt payment is affected one way or the other by the issuer's related parties such as parent company, subsidiary, guarantor, and the government of the issuer's business domicile, etc. - by their own conditions and/ or position of support/ assistance for the issuer.

E) Order of Seniority in Debt Payment

The likelihood of debt payment can be different between given debts of the same issuer. The likelihood of debt payment for an individual debt is dependent on the issuer's discretion, and/ or its rank relative to other debts of the same issuer in the order of seniority in principal/ interest payment which is determined by design as financial product or by laws, etc.

4 The Potential Limitations of the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(D) of Rule 17g-7

- The credit rating herewith presented by JCR is its summary opinion with regard to the likelihood of given debt payment and hence not necessarily a perfect representation of such likelihood. The credit rating is not intended to estimate the probability of default or the loss on given default, either.
- The objective of the credit rating herewith presented does not include any concerns other than the likelihood of debt payment, such as risks of price changes, market liquidity, etc.
- The credit rating herewith presented is necessary to be reviewed along with possible changes of the issuer of rated objects in its business performance and/ or circumstances which include regulatory environment, and hence subject to possible alteration.

5 Information on the Uncertainty of the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(E) of Rule 17g-7

- The information used for the determination of credit rating as herewith presented is obtained by JCR from the issuer of rated objects and other sources that JCR trusts in terms of accuracy and reliability but possibly contains errors due to human, non-human or other causes. Consequently, the credit rating determined on the grounds of such information does not constitute, explicitly or implicitly, any representation or warrant of JCR on the information itself or any consequences of its use in terms of accuracy, relevance, timeliness, wholeness, market value, or usefulness for any specific purposes.

6 Use of Due Diligence Services of a Third Party in Taking the Rating Action as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(F) of Rule 17g-7

- There is no use of any third-party due diligence service in the determination of the credit rating herewith presented.

7 Use of Servicer or Remittance Reports to Conduct Surveillance of the Credit Rating Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(G) of Rule 17g-7

- There is no use of any servicer or remittance report to conduct surveillance of the credit rating herewith presented.

8 The Types of Data Relied Upon for the Purpose of Determining the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(H) of Rule 17g-7

- The information posted in the below, which includes data, is used for the determination of the credit rating herewith presented.

A) Audited financial statements presented by the rating stakeholders

B) Explanations of business performance, management plans, etc. presented by the rating stakeholders

9 Overall assessment of the Quality of Information Available and Considered in Determining the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(I) of Rule 17g-7

- JCR holds its basic policies for securing the quality of information as a base of due diligence for the determination of credit ratings. The information used as a base for the determination of credit rating herewith presented satisfies such policies, which include the audit by an independent auditor, the warranty made by the issuer, the publication by the issuer, some independent media or, otherwise, JCR analyst's scrutiny, etc.
- JCR sees no particular weakness in the quality of information used for the determination of the credit rating herewith presented as compared to the information used in other cases of the credit rating for comparable issuers or ratable objects.
- If the credit rating is an Indication, please see the report for Indication.

10 Information Relating to Conflicts of Interest as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(J) of Rule 17g-7

- JCR receives payment of compensation for the determination of the credit rating herewith presented from either one of those parties who are issuer, underwriter, depositor or sponsor.
- JCR received in the last fiscal year in the past payment of compensation from the same party for any kind of JCR's service other than the determination of public or private credit rating, such as one in the ancillary business.

11 Explanation or Measure of the Potential Volatility of the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(K) of Rule 17g-7

A) Business Bases

The credit rating is subject to alteration if there is improvement or deterioration of the issuer's business bases, since its revenue, etc. may improve or deteriorate by the change in its business management policies, clients' preferences, competitive situation, or a technological innovation. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually by a notch, with possibility of a few notches if and when the change in the business bases is large.

B) Financial Grounds and Asset Quality

The credit rating is subject to alteration if the issuer increases/ decreases its debt/ capital or vice versa and thereby makes its individual debt payment liability less or more bearable and its loss absorption capacity into the future decreased or increased. Also, the changes in the quality of asset under the issuer's holding may affect the credit rating, since such changes could raise or lower the likelihood of future loss of the issuer's financial grounds. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually by a notch, with possibility of a few notches if and when the change in the financial grounds and/ or asset quality is large.

C) Liquidity Positions

The credit rating is subject to alteration if there is a change in the issuer's financial management policy or in the relations with fund procurement sources and the change thereby makes its liquidity positions improve or deteriorate. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually by a notch, with possibility of a few notches if and when the change is large.

D) Related Parties' Status and Stance of Support/ Assistance for the Issuer

The credit rating is subject to alteration if there is a change in the issuer's parent company or subsidiary, guarantor or other provider of credit enhancement, or the government of the issuer's business domicile, or other related parties' own conditions and/ or position of support/ assistance for the issuer, and the change thereby makes its business bases, financial grounds and/ or liquidity positions improve or deteriorate, and/ or making the effectiveness of guarantee and other credit enhancement improve or deteriorate. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually a notch, with possibility of a few notches if and when the change is large.

E) Order of Seniority in Debt Payment and Non-Payment Forgiven by Contract

The credit rating is subject to alteration if there is a change in the rated debt's status in the order of seniority relative to other debts caused by the improvement/ deterioration of the issuer's financial condition. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually a notch, with possibility of a few notches if and when the change is large. Also, in case of the financial products for which non-payment of interest/ principal is contractually permissible, the credit rating is subject to alteration if and when the likelihood of such non-payment is projected to increase or decrease. The resultant alteration of the credit rating could be by a notch but often as much as a few notches.

F) Rise and Fall in General Economy and Markets

The credit rating is subject to alteration if there is a rise/ fall in the general economy and/ or the markets inducing the issuer's revenues/ expenses to increase/ decrease and vice versa, etc. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually by a notch, with possibility of a few notches if and when the change is exceptionally large.

G) Various Events

The credit rating is subject to alteration on occurrence of various events, such as change in the issuer's major shareholders, M&A and other organizational change, accident, violation of the law, litigation, legal/ regulatory change, natural disaster, etc., which are unforeseeable at the time when the credit rating is determined, causing a significant change on the issuer's business bases, financial grounds, etc. The resultant alteration of the credit rating could be by a notch but more often than not as much as a few notches.

12

Information on the Content of the Credit Rating, Including the Historical Performance of the Credit Rating and the Expected Probability of Default and the Expected Loss in the Event of Default as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(L) of Rule 17g-7

- Historical records of the credit rating herewith presented are posted in the end of this paper.
- The credit rating herewith presented by JCR is its summary opinion with regard to the likelihood of given debt payment and hence not necessarily a perfect representation of such likelihood. The credit rating is not intended to estimate the probability of default or the loss on given default, either.
- Facts of the probability of default are posted as Form NRSRO Exhibit 1 on the JCR website under the URL:

<https://www.jcr.co.jp/en/service/company/regu/nrsro/>

13

Information on the Sensitivity of the Credit Rating to Assumptions Made as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(M) of Rule 17g-7

A) Business Bases

The credit rating herewith presented could be changed if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turn out to be inaccurate with regard to the issuer's business bases and powers of earning or cash flow generation, etc. The resultant change of the credit rating is most likely by a notch, as JCR speculates, but possibly as much as a few notches if the development is rapid in improvement or deterioration of the issuer's business bases on some drastic change in the operational environments, etc.

B) Financial Grounds and Asset Quality

The credit rating herewith presented could be changed if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turn out to be inaccurate with regard to the issuer's financial grounds and asset quality. The resultant change of the credit rating is most likely by a notch, as JCR speculates, but

possibly as much as a few notches if the development is rapid in improvement or deterioration of the issuer's financial grounds and/ or asset quality on some drastic change in its business bases.

C) Liquidity Risks

The credit rating herewith presented could be changed if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turn out to be inaccurate with regard to the issuer's liquidity positions. The resultant change of the credit rating is most likely by a notch, as JCR speculates, but possibly as much as a few notches if the development is rapid in improvement or deterioration of the issuer's liquidity positions on some drastic change in its financial management policy or relations with fund procurement sources, etc.

D) Order of Seniority in Debt Payment and Non-Payment Forgiven by Contract

The credit rating herewith presented could be changed if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turn out to be inaccurate with regard to the order of seniority in repayment of interests and principal. JCR assumes the resultant change of the credit rating is most likely by a notch. The change could be as much as a few notches if the issuer's financial structure differs so much and thereby the balance between debts shifted so greatly. Rating change is also possible in case of the financial products for which non-payment of interest/ principal is contractually permissible, if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turns out to be inaccurate. The change of the credit rating is assumed to be by a notch but often as much as a few notches.

E) Rise and Fall in General Economy and Markets

The credit rating herewith presented could be changed if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turn out to be inaccurate with regard to the prospects of general economy and markets. JCR expects the change should be most likely by a notch but could be as much as a few notches, should the economy or the markets change so greatly.

14

Information on the Representations, Warranties, and Enforcement Mechanisms of an Asset-backed Security as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(N) of rule 17g-7

- The credit rating herewith presented is not for an ABS product, and hence no relevant issue.

Japan Credit Rating Agency, Ltd.

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The Historical Performance of the Credit Rating

| Issuer Name | Issue Name | Publication Date | Rating | Outlook/Direction |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------|-------------------|
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Issuer(Long-term) | March 5, 2003 | A+ | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Issuer(Long-term) | October 2, 2003 | A+ | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Issuer(Long-term) | October 4, 2004 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Issuer(Long-term) | October 12, 2005 | AA | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Issuer(Long-term) | October 18, 2006 | AA | Stable |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Issuer(Long-term) | October 4, 2007 | AA | Stable |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Issuer(Long-term) | October 7, 2008 | AA | Stable |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Issuer(Long-term) | October 23, 2009 | AA | Stable |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Issuer(Long-term) | October 5, 2010 | AA | Stable |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Issuer(Long-term) | October 5, 2011 | AA | Stable |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Issuer(Long-term) | September 27, 2012 | AA- | Stable |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Issuer(Long-term) | October 7, 2013 | AA- | Stable |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Issuer(Long-term) | September 30, 2014 | AA- | Stable |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Issuer(Long-term) | October 5, 2015 | AA- | Stable |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Issuer(Long-term) | October 5, 2016 | AA- | Stable |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Issuer(Long-term) | October 5, 2017 | AA- | Stable |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Issuer(Long-term) | October 16, 2018 | AA- | Stable |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Issuer(Long-term) | October 4, 2019 | AA- | Stable |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Issuer(Long-term) | September 30, 2020 | AA- | Negative |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Issuer(Long-term) | October 6, 2021 | AA- | Stable |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Issuer(Long-term) | October 4, 2022 | AA- | Stable |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Issuer(Long-term) | October 10, 2023 | AA- | Stable |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | CP | April 1, 2003 | J-1 | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | CP | October 2, 2003 | J-1 | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | CP | October 4, 2004 | J-1+ | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | CP | October 12, 2005 | J-1+ | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | CP | October 18, 2006 | J-1+ | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | CP | October 4, 2007 | J-1+ | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | CP | October 7, 2008 | J-1+ | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | CP | January 9, 2009 | J-1+ | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | CP | October 23, 2009 | J-1+ | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | CP | October 5, 2010 | J-1+ | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | CP | October 5, 2011 | J-1+ | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | CP | September 27, 2012 | J-1+ | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | CP | October 7, 2013 | J-1+ | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | CP | September 30, 2014 | J-1+ | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | CP | October 5, 2015 | J-1+ | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | CP | October 5, 2016 | J-1+ | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | CP | October 5, 2017 | J-1+ | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | CP | October 16, 2018 | J-1+ | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | CP | October 4, 2019 | J-1+ | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | CP | September 30, 2020 | J-1+ | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | CP | October 6, 2021 | J-1+ | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | CP | May 31, 2022 | J-1+ | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | CP | October 4, 2022 | J-1+ | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | CP | October 10, 2023 | J-1+ | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Shelf Registration | July 7, 2023 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Shelf Registration | October 10, 2023 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.25 | May 15, 2018 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.25 | October 16, 2018 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.25 | October 4, 2019 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.25 | September 30, 2020 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.25 | October 6, 2021 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.25 | October 4, 2022 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.25 | October 10, 2023 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.28 | May 21, 2019 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.28 | October 4, 2019 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.28 | September 30, 2020 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.28 | October 6, 2021 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.28 | October 4, 2022 | AA- | |

The Historical Performance of the Credit Rating

| Issuer Name | Issue Name | Publication Date | Rating | Outlook/Direction |
|--------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|--------|-------------------|
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.28 | October 10, 2023 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.29 | May 21, 2019 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.29 | October 4, 2019 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.29 | September 30, 2020 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.29 | October 6, 2021 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.29 | October 4, 2022 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.29 | October 10, 2023 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.31 | September 13, 2019 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.31 | October 4, 2019 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.31 | September 30, 2020 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.31 | October 6, 2021 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.31 | October 4, 2022 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.31 | October 10, 2023 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.32 | September 13, 2019 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.32 | October 4, 2019 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.32 | September 30, 2020 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.32 | October 6, 2021 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.32 | October 4, 2022 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.32 | October 10, 2023 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.34 | July 8, 2020 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.34 | September 30, 2020 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.34 | October 6, 2021 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.34 | October 4, 2022 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.34 | October 10, 2023 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.35 | July 8, 2020 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.35 | September 30, 2020 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.35 | October 6, 2021 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.35 | October 4, 2022 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.35 | October 10, 2023 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.1(subordinated) | June 4, 2021 | A | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.1(subordinated) | October 6, 2021 | A | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.1(subordinated) | October 4, 2022 | A | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.1(subordinated) | October 10, 2023 | A | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.36 | June 3, 2022 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.36 | October 4, 2022 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.36 | October 10, 2023 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.37 | June 3, 2022 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.37 | October 4, 2022 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.37 | October 10, 2023 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Bonds no.38 | July 4, 2024 | AA- | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Loan(subordinated) Tranche B | June 15, 2016 | A | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Loan(subordinated) Tranche B | October 5, 2016 | A | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Loan(subordinated) Tranche B | October 5, 2017 | A | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Loan(subordinated) Tranche B | October 16, 2018 | A | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Loan(subordinated) Tranche B | October 4, 2019 | A | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Loan(subordinated) Tranche B | September 30, 2020 | A | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Loan(subordinated) Tranche B | October 6, 2021 | A | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Loan(subordinated) Tranche B | October 4, 2022 | A | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Loan(subordinated) Tranche B | October 10, 2023 | A | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Loan(subordinated) Tranche C | June 15, 2016 | A | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Loan(subordinated) Tranche C | October 5, 2016 | A | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Loan(subordinated) Tranche C | October 5, 2017 | A | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Loan(subordinated) Tranche C | October 16, 2018 | A | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Loan(subordinated) Tranche C | October 4, 2019 | A | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Loan(subordinated) Tranche C | September 30, 2020 | A | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Loan(subordinated) Tranche C | October 6, 2021 | A | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Loan(subordinated) Tranche C | October 4, 2022 | A | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Loan(subordinated) Tranche C | October 10, 2023 | A | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Loan(subordinated) Tranche D | June 15, 2016 | A | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Loan(subordinated) Tranche D | October 5, 2016 | A | |

The Historical Performance of the Credit Rating

| Issuer Name | Issue Name | Publication Date | Rating | Outlook/Direction |
|--------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|--------|-------------------|
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Loan(subordinated) Tranche D | October 5, 2017 | A | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Loan(subordinated) Tranche D | October 16, 2018 | A | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Loan(subordinated) Tranche D | October 4, 2019 | A | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Loan(subordinated) Tranche D | September 30, 2020 | A | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Loan(subordinated) Tranche D | October 6, 2021 | A | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Loan(subordinated) Tranche D | October 4, 2022 | A | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Loan(subordinated) Tranche D | October 10, 2023 | A | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Loan(subordinated) Tranche B | February 16, 2018 | A | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Loan(subordinated) Tranche B | October 16, 2018 | A | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Loan(subordinated) Tranche B | October 4, 2019 | A | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Loan(subordinated) Tranche B | September 30, 2020 | A | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Loan(subordinated) Tranche B | October 6, 2021 | A | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Loan(subordinated) Tranche B | October 4, 2022 | A | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Loan(subordinated) Tranche B | October 10, 2023 | A | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Loan(subordinated) | February 17, 2023 | A | |
| JFE Holdings, Inc. | Loan(subordinated) | October 10, 2023 | A | |

Attestation Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(iii) of Rule 17g-7

I, Mikiya Kubota, have responsibility to this Rating Action and to the best of my knowledge:

- A) No part of the credit rating was influenced by any other business activities.
- B) The credit rating was based solely upon the merits of the obligor, security, or money market instrument being rated.
- C) The credit rating was an independent evaluation of the credit risk of the obligor, security, or money market instrument.

窪田 幹也

Mikiya Kubota

General Manager of Corporate Rating Department I

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE FORM

Japan Credit Rating Agency, Ltd.

Disclosure Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii) of Rule 17g-7

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Issuer: | JFE Steel Corporation |
| Rating Publication Date: | September 30, 2024 |

1

The Symbol, Number, or Score in the Rating Scale used to Denote Credit Rating Categories and Notches and, the Identity of the Obligor or the Identity and a Description of the Security or Money Market Instrument as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(A) of Rule 17g-7

- Please see the news release. If the credit rating is a private rating, please see the report for private rating.

2

The version of the procedure or methodology used to determine the credit rating; as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(B) of Rule 17g-7

- Please see the news release. If the credit rating is a private rating, please see the report for private rating.

3

The Main Assumptions and Principles used in Constructing the Procedures and Methodologies used to Determine the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(C) of Rule 17g-7

- The credit rating methodology assumes, in principle, to be applied to assess the likelihood of a given debt payment in light of its issuer's condition and business environment, etc. in the relevant future. There is certain limitation, however, in the time horizon that the rating foresees.
- The credit rating methodology assumes, in principle, that the factors posted in the below are particularly important for such likelihood to be determined, and that the rating determination is made by evaluating each of them not only quantitatively but also employing qualitative analyses.

A) Business Bases

The likelihood of a given debt payment is highly conditional to its issuer's business bases - how they can be maintained/ expanded into the future and thereby secure earnings and cash flows in adequacy and in a sustainable way.

B) Financial Grounds and Asset Quality

The likelihood of debt payment is highly dependent on the degree of the issuer's indebtedness and loss absorption capacity in terms of equity capital. Also notable is that a financial institution might see a significant loss of financial grounds as a result of changes in value of the assets under its possession.

C) Liquidity Positions

The likelihood of debt payment is highly dependent on the adequacy of the issuer's cash and other sources of repayment (liquidity positions).

D) Related Parties' Status and Stance of Support/ Assistance for the Issuer

The likelihood of debt payment is affected one way or the other by the issuer's related parties such as parent company, subsidiary, guarantor, and the government of the issuer's business domicile, etc. - by their own conditions and/ or position of support/ assistance for the issuer.

E) Order of Seniority in Debt Payment

The likelihood of debt payment can be different between given debts of the same issuer. The likelihood of debt payment for an individual debt is dependent on the issuer's discretion, and/ or its rank relative to other debts of the same issuer in the order of seniority in principal/ interest payment which is determined by design as financial product or by laws, etc.

4 The Potential Limitations of the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(D) of Rule 17g-7

- The credit rating herewith presented by JCR is its summary opinion with regard to the likelihood of given debt payment and hence not necessarily a perfect representation of such likelihood. The credit rating is not intended to estimate the probability of default or the loss on given default, either.
- The objective of the credit rating herewith presented does not include any concerns other than the likelihood of debt payment, such as risks of price changes, market liquidity, etc.
- The credit rating herewith presented is necessary to be reviewed along with possible changes of the issuer of rated objects in its business performance and/ or circumstances which include regulatory environment, and hence subject to possible alteration.

5 Information on the Uncertainty of the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(E) of Rule 17g-7

- The information used for the determination of credit rating as herewith presented is obtained by JCR from the issuer of rated objects and other sources that JCR trusts in terms of accuracy and reliability but possibly contains errors due to human, non-human or other causes. Consequently, the credit rating determined on the grounds of such information does not constitute, explicitly or implicitly, any representation or warrant of JCR on the information itself or any consequences of its use in terms of accuracy, relevance, timeliness, wholeness, market value, or usefulness for any specific purposes.

6 Use of Due Diligence Services of a Third Party in Taking the Rating Action as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(F) of Rule 17g-7

- There is no use of any third-party due diligence service in the determination of the credit rating herewith presented.

7 Use of Servicer or Remittance Reports to Conduct Surveillance of the Credit Rating Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(G) of Rule 17g-7

- There is no use of any servicer or remittance report to conduct surveillance of the credit rating herewith presented.

8 The Types of Data Relied Upon for the Purpose of Determining the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(H) of Rule 17g-7

- The information posted in the below, which includes data, is used for the determination of the credit rating herewith presented.
- A) Audited financial statements presented by the rating stakeholders
- B) Explanations of business performance, management plans, etc. presented by the rating stakeholders

9 Overall assessment of the Quality of Information Available and Considered in Determining the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(I) of Rule 17g-7

- JCR holds its basic policies for securing the quality of information as a base of due diligence for the determination of credit ratings. The information used as a base for the determination of credit rating herewith presented satisfies such policies, which include the audit by an independent auditor, the warranty made by the issuer, the publication by the issuer, some independent media or, otherwise, JCR analyst's scrutiny, etc.
- JCR sees no particular weakness in the quality of information used for the determination of the credit rating herewith presented as compared to the information used in other cases of the credit rating for comparable issuers or ratable objects.
- If the credit rating is an Indication, please see the report for Indication.

10 Information Relating to Conflicts of Interest as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(J) of Rule 17g-7

- JCR does not receive payment of compensation for the determination of the credit rating herewith presented from either one of those parties who are issuer, underwriter, depositor or sponsor.
- JCR did not receive in the last fiscal year in the past payment of compensation from the same party for any kind of JCR's service other than the determination of public or private credit rating, such as one in the ancillary business.

11 Explanation or Measure of the Potential Volatility of the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(K) of Rule 17g-7

A) Business Bases

The credit rating is subject to alteration if there is improvement or deterioration of the issuer's business bases, since its revenue, etc. may improve or deteriorate by the change in its business management policies, clients' preferences, competitive situation, or a technological innovation. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually by a notch, with possibility of a few notches if and when the change in the business bases is large.

B) Financial Grounds and Asset Quality

The credit rating is subject to alteration if the issuer increases/ decreases its debt/ capital or vice versa and thereby makes its individual debt payment liability less or more bearable and its loss absorption capacity into the future decreased or increased. Also, the changes in the quality of asset under the issuer's holding may affect the credit rating, since such changes could raise or lower the likelihood of future loss of the issuer's financial grounds. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually by a notch, with possibility of a few notches if and when the change in the financial grounds and/ or asset quality is large.

C) Liquidity Positions

The credit rating is subject to alteration if there is a change in the issuer's financial management policy or in the relations with fund procurement sources and the change thereby makes its liquidity positions improve or deteriorate. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually by a notch, with possibility of a few notches if and when the change is large.

D) Related Parties' Status and Stance of Support/ Assistance for the Issuer

The credit rating is subject to alteration if there is a change in the issuer's parent company or subsidiary, guarantor or other provider of credit enhancement, or the government of the issuer's business domicile, or other related parties' own conditions and/ or position of support/ assistance for the issuer, and the change thereby makes its business bases, financial grounds and/ or liquidity positions improve or deteriorate, and/ or making the effectiveness of guarantee and other credit enhancement improve or deteriorate. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually a notch, with possibility of a few notches if and when the change is large.

E) Order of Seniority in Debt Payment and Non-Payment Forgiven by Contract

The credit rating is subject to alteration if there is a change in the rated debt's status in the order of seniority relative to other debts caused by the improvement/ deterioration of the issuer's financial condition. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually a notch, with possibility of a few notches if and when the change is large. Also, in case of the financial products for which non-payment of interest/ principal is contractually permissible, the credit rating is subject to alteration if and when the likelihood of such non-payment is projected to increase or decrease. The resultant alteration of the credit rating could be by a notch but often as much as a few notches.

F) Rise and Fall in General Economy and Markets

The credit rating is subject to alteration if there is a rise/ fall in the general economy and/ or the markets inducing the issuer's revenues/ expenses to increase/ decrease and vice versa, etc. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually by a notch, with possibility of a few notches if and when the change is exceptionally large.

G) Various Events

The credit rating is subject to alteration on occurrence of various events, such as change in the issuer's major shareholders, M&A and other organizational change, accident, violation of the law, litigation, legal/ regulatory change, natural disaster, etc., which are unforeseeable at the time when the credit rating is determined, causing a significant change on the issuer's business bases, financial grounds, etc. The resultant alteration of the credit rating could be by a notch but more often than not as much as a few notches.

12

Information on the Content of the Credit Rating, Including the Historical Performance of the Credit Rating and the Expected Probability of Default and the Expected Loss in the Event of Default as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(L) of Rule 17g-7

- Historical records of the credit rating herewith presented are posted in the end of this paper.
- The credit rating herewith presented by JCR is its summary opinion with regard to the likelihood of given debt payment and hence not necessarily a perfect representation of such likelihood. The credit rating is not intended to estimate the probability of default or the loss on given default, either.
- Facts of the probability of default are posted as Form NRSRO Exhibit 1 on the JCR website under the URL:

<https://www.jcr.co.jp/en/service/company/regu/nrsro/>

13

Information on the Sensitivity of the Credit Rating to Assumptions Made as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(M) of Rule 17g-7

A) Business Bases

The credit rating herewith presented could be changed if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turn out to be inaccurate with regard to the issuer's business bases and powers of earning or cash flow generation, etc. The resultant change of the credit rating is most likely by a notch, as JCR speculates, but possibly as much as a few notches if the development is rapid in improvement or deterioration of the issuer's business bases on some drastic change in the operational environments, etc.

B) Financial Grounds and Asset Quality

The credit rating herewith presented could be changed if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turn out to be inaccurate with regard to the issuer's financial grounds and asset quality. The resultant change of the credit rating is most likely by a notch, as JCR speculates, but

possibly as much as a few notches if the development is rapid in improvement or deterioration of the issuer's financial grounds and/ or asset quality on some drastic change in its business bases.

C) Liquidity Risks

The credit rating herewith presented could be changed if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turn out to be inaccurate with regard to the issuer's liquidity positions. The resultant change of the credit rating is most likely by a notch, as JCR speculates, but possibly as much as a few notches if the development is rapid in improvement or deterioration of the issuer's liquidity positions on some drastic change in its financial management policy or relations with fund procurement sources, etc.

D) Order of Seniority in Debt Payment and Non-Payment Forgiven by Contract

The credit rating herewith presented could be changed if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turn out to be inaccurate with regard to the order of seniority in repayment of interests and principal. JCR assumes the resultant change of the credit rating is most likely by a notch. The change could be as much as a few notches if the issuer's financial structure differs so much and thereby the balance between debts shifted so greatly. Rating change is also possible in case of the financial products for which non-payment of interest/ principal is contractually permissible, if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turns out to be inaccurate. The change of the credit rating is assumed to be by a notch but often as much as a few notches.

E) Rise and Fall in General Economy and Markets

The credit rating herewith presented could be changed if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turn out to be inaccurate with regard to the prospects of general economy and markets. JCR expects the change should be most likely by a notch but could be as much as a few notches, should the economy or the markets change so greatly.

14

Information on the Representations, Warranties, and Enforcement Mechanisms of an Asset-backed Security as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(N) of rule 17g-7

- The credit rating herewith presented is not for an ABS product, and hence no relevant issue.

Japan Credit Rating Agency, Ltd.

Jiji Press Building, 5-15-8 Ginza, Chuo-ku, Tokyo 104-0061, Japan
Tel. +81 3 3544 7013, Fax. +81 3 3544 7026

The Historical Performance of the Credit Rating

| Issuer Name | Issue Name | Publication Date | Rating | Outlook/Direction |
|-----------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------|-------------------|
| JFE Steel Corporation | Issuer(Long-term) | October 18, 2006 | AA | Stable |
| JFE Steel Corporation | Issuer(Long-term) | October 4, 2007 | AA | Stable |
| JFE Steel Corporation | Issuer(Long-term) | October 7, 2008 | AA | Stable |
| JFE Steel Corporation | Issuer(Long-term) | October 23, 2009 | AA | Stable |
| JFE Steel Corporation | Issuer(Long-term) | October 5, 2010 | AA | Stable |
| JFE Steel Corporation | Issuer(Long-term) | October 5, 2011 | AA | Stable |
| JFE Steel Corporation | Issuer(Long-term) | September 27, 2012 | AA- | Stable |
| JFE Steel Corporation | Issuer(Long-term) | October 7, 2013 | AA- | Stable |
| JFE Steel Corporation | Issuer(Long-term) | September 30, 2014 | AA- | Stable |
| JFE Steel Corporation | Issuer(Long-term) | October 5, 2015 | AA- | Stable |
| JFE Steel Corporation | Issuer(Long-term) | October 5, 2016 | AA- | Stable |
| JFE Steel Corporation | Issuer(Long-term) | October 5, 2017 | AA- | Stable |
| JFE Steel Corporation | Issuer(Long-term) | October 16, 2018 | AA- | Stable |
| JFE Steel Corporation | Issuer(Long-term) | October 4, 2019 | AA- | Stable |
| JFE Steel Corporation | Issuer(Long-term) | September 30, 2020 | AA- | Negative |
| JFE Steel Corporation | Issuer(Long-term) | October 6, 2021 | AA- | Stable |
| JFE Steel Corporation | Issuer(Long-term) | October 4, 2022 | AA- | Stable |
| JFE Steel Corporation | Issuer(Long-term) | October 10, 2023 | AA- | Stable |

Attestation Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(iii) of Rule 17g-7

I, Mikiya Kubota, have responsibility to this Rating Action and to the best of my knowledge:

- A) No part of the credit rating was influenced by any other business activities.
- B) The credit rating was based solely upon the merits of the obligor, security, or money market instrument being rated.
- C) The credit rating was an independent evaluation of the credit risk of the obligor, security, or money market instrument.

窪田 幹也

Mikiya Kubota

General Manager of Corporate Rating Department I

Japan Credit Rating Agency, Ltd.

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Tel. +81 3 3544 7013, Fax. +81 3 3544 7026



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE FORM

Japan Credit Rating Agency, Ltd.

Disclosure Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii) of Rule 17g-7

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Issuer: | Kobe Steel, Ltd. |
| Rating Publication Date: | September 30, 2024 |

1

The Symbol, Number, or Score in the Rating Scale used to Denote Credit Rating Categories and Notches and, the Identity of the Obligor or the Identity and a Description of the Security or Money Market Instrument as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(A) of Rule 17g-7

- Please see the news release. If the credit rating is a private rating, please see the report for private rating.

2

The version of the procedure or methodology used to determine the credit rating; as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(B) of Rule 17g-7

- Please see the news release. If the credit rating is a private rating, please see the report for private rating.

3

The Main Assumptions and Principles used in Constructing the Procedures and Methodologies used to Determine the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(C) of Rule 17g-7

- The credit rating methodology assumes, in principle, to be applied to assess the likelihood of a given debt payment in light of its issuer's condition and business environment, etc. in the relevant future. There is certain limitation, however, in the time horizon that the rating foresees.
- The credit rating methodology assumes, in principle, that the factors posted in the below are particularly important for such likelihood to be determined, and that the rating determination is made by evaluating each of them not only quantitatively but also employing qualitative analyses.

A) Business Bases

The likelihood of a given debt payment is highly conditional to its issuer's business bases - how they can be maintained/ expanded into the future and thereby secure earnings and cash flows in adequacy and in a sustainable way.

B) Financial Grounds and Asset Quality

The likelihood of debt payment is highly dependent on the degree of the issuer's indebtedness and loss absorption capacity in terms of equity capital. Also notable is that a financial institution might see a significant loss of financial grounds as a result of changes in value of the assets under its possession.

C) Liquidity Positions

The likelihood of debt payment is highly dependent on the adequacy of the issuer's cash and other sources of repayment (liquidity positions).

D) Related Parties' Status and Stance of Support/ Assistance for the Issuer

The likelihood of debt payment is affected one way or the other by the issuer's related parties such as parent company, subsidiary, guarantor, and the government of the issuer's business domicile, etc. - by their own conditions and/ or position of support/ assistance for the issuer.

E) Order of Seniority in Debt Payment

The likelihood of debt payment can be different between given debts of the same issuer. The likelihood of debt payment for an individual debt is dependent on the issuer's discretion, and/ or its rank relative to other debts of the same issuer in the order of seniority in principal/ interest payment which is determined by design as financial product or by laws, etc.

4 The Potential Limitations of the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(D) of Rule 17g-7

- The credit rating herewith presented by JCR is its summary opinion with regard to the likelihood of given debt payment and hence not necessarily a perfect representation of such likelihood. The credit rating is not intended to estimate the probability of default or the loss on given default, either.
- The objective of the credit rating herewith presented does not include any concerns other than the likelihood of debt payment, such as risks of price changes, market liquidity, etc.
- The credit rating herewith presented is necessary to be reviewed along with possible changes of the issuer of rated objects in its business performance and/ or circumstances which include regulatory environment, and hence subject to possible alteration.

5 Information on the Uncertainty of the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(E) of Rule 17g-7

- The information used for the determination of credit rating as herewith presented is obtained by JCR from the issuer of rated objects and other sources that JCR trusts in terms of accuracy and reliability but possibly contains errors due to human, non-human or other causes. Consequently, the credit rating determined on the grounds of such information does not constitute, explicitly or implicitly, any representation or warrant of JCR on the information itself or any consequences of its use in terms of accuracy, relevance, timeliness, wholeness, market value, or usefulness for any specific purposes.

6 Use of Due Diligence Services of a Third Party in Taking the Rating Action as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(F) of Rule 17g-7

- There is no use of any third-party due diligence service in the determination of the credit rating herewith presented.

7 Use of Servicer or Remittance Reports to Conduct Surveillance of the Credit Rating Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(G) of Rule 17g-7

- There is no use of any servicer or remittance report to conduct surveillance of the credit rating herewith presented.

8 The Types of Data Relied Upon for the Purpose of Determining the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(H) of Rule 17g-7

- The information posted in the below, which includes data, is used for the determination of the credit rating herewith presented.

A) Audited financial statements presented by the rating stakeholders

B) Explanations of business performance, management plans, etc. presented by the rating stakeholders

9 Overall assessment of the Quality of Information Available and Considered in Determining the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(I) of Rule 17g-7

- JCR holds its basic policies for securing the quality of information as a base of due diligence for the determination of credit ratings. The information used as a base for the determination of credit rating herewith presented satisfies such policies, which include the audit by an independent auditor, the warranty made by the issuer, the publication by the issuer, some independent media or, otherwise, JCR analyst's scrutiny, etc.
- JCR sees no particular weakness in the quality of information used for the determination of the credit rating herewith presented as compared to the information used in other cases of the credit rating for comparable issuers or ratable objects.
- If the credit rating is an Indication, please see the report for Indication.

10 Information Relating to Conflicts of Interest as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(J) of Rule 17g-7

- JCR receives payment of compensation for the determination of the credit rating herewith presented from either one of those parties who are issuer, underwriter, depositor or sponsor.
- JCR did not receive in the last fiscal year in the past payment of compensation from the same party for any kind of JCR's service other than the determination of public or private credit rating, such as one in the ancillary business.

11 Explanation or Measure of the Potential Volatility of the Credit Rating as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(K) of Rule 17g-7

A) Business Bases

The credit rating is subject to alteration if there is improvement or deterioration of the issuer's business bases, since its revenue, etc. may improve or deteriorate by the change in its business management policies, clients' preferences, competitive situation, or a technological innovation. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually by a notch, with possibility of a few notches if and when the change in the business bases is large.

B) Financial Grounds and Asset Quality

The credit rating is subject to alteration if the issuer increases/ decreases its debt/ capital or vice versa and thereby makes its individual debt payment liability less or more bearable and its loss absorption capacity into the future decreased or increased. Also, the changes in the quality of asset under the issuer's holding may affect the credit rating, since such changes could raise or lower the likelihood of future loss of the issuer's financial grounds. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually by a notch, with possibility of a few notches if and when the change in the financial grounds and/ or asset quality is large.

C) Liquidity Positions

The credit rating is subject to alteration if there is a change in the issuer's financial management policy or in the relations with fund procurement sources and the change thereby makes its liquidity positions improve or deteriorate. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually by a notch, with possibility of a few notches if and when the change is large.

D) Related Parties' Status and Stance of Support/ Assistance for the Issuer

The credit rating is subject to alteration if there is a change in the issuer's parent company or subsidiary, guarantor or other provider of credit enhancement, or the government of the issuer's business domicile, or other related parties' own conditions and/ or position of support/ assistance for the issuer, and the change thereby makes its business bases, financial grounds and/ or liquidity positions improve or deteriorate, and/ or making the effectiveness of guarantee and other credit enhancement improve or deteriorate. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually a notch, with possibility of a few notches if and when the change is large.

E) Order of Seniority in Debt Payment and Non-Payment Forgiven by Contract

The credit rating is subject to alteration if there is a change in the rated debt's status in the order of seniority relative to other debts caused by the improvement/ deterioration of the issuer's financial condition. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually a notch, with possibility of a few notches if and when the change is large. Also, in case of the financial products for which non-payment of interest/ principal is contractually permissible, the credit rating is subject to alteration if and when the likelihood of such non-payment is projected to increase or decrease. The resultant alteration of the credit rating could be by a notch but often as much as a few notches.

F) Rise and Fall in General Economy and Markets

The credit rating is subject to alteration if there is a rise/ fall in the general economy and/ or the markets inducing the issuer's revenues/ expenses to increase/ decrease and vice versa, etc. The resultant alteration of the credit rating is usually by a notch, with possibility of a few notches if and when the change is exceptionally large.

G) Various Events

The credit rating is subject to alteration on occurrence of various events, such as change in the issuer's major shareholders, M&A and other organizational change, accident, violation of the law, litigation, legal/ regulatory change, natural disaster, etc., which are unforeseeable at the time when the credit rating is determined, causing a significant change on the issuer's business bases, financial grounds, etc. The resultant alteration of the credit rating could be by a notch but more often than not as much as a few notches.

12

Information on the Content of the Credit Rating, Including the Historical Performance of the Credit Rating and the Expected Probability of Default and the Expected Loss in the Event of Default as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(L) of Rule 17g-7

- Historical records of the credit rating herewith presented are posted in the end of this paper.
- The credit rating herewith presented by JCR is its summary opinion with regard to the likelihood of given debt payment and hence not necessarily a perfect representation of such likelihood. The credit rating is not intended to estimate the probability of default or the loss on given default, either.
- Facts of the probability of default are posted as Form NRSRO Exhibit 1 on the JCR website under the URL:

<https://www.jcr.co.jp/en/service/company/regu/nrsro/>

13

Information on the Sensitivity of the Credit Rating to Assumptions Made as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(M) of Rule 17g-7

A) Business Bases

The credit rating herewith presented could be changed if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turn out to be inaccurate with regard to the issuer's business bases and powers of earning or cash flow generation, etc. The resultant change of the credit rating is most likely by a notch, as JCR speculates, but possibly as much as a few notches if the development is rapid in improvement or deterioration of the issuer's business bases on some drastic change in the operational environments, etc.

B) Financial Grounds and Asset Quality

The credit rating herewith presented could be changed if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turn out to be inaccurate with regard to the issuer's financial grounds and asset quality. The resultant change of the credit rating is most likely by a notch, as JCR speculates, but

possibly as much as a few notches if the development is rapid in improvement or deterioration of the issuer's financial grounds and/ or asset quality on some drastic change in its business bases.

C) Liquidity Risks

The credit rating herewith presented could be changed if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turn out to be inaccurate with regard to the issuer's liquidity positions. The resultant change of the credit rating is most likely by a notch, as JCR speculates, but possibly as much as a few notches if the development is rapid in improvement or deterioration of the issuer's liquidity positions on some drastic change in its financial management policy or relations with fund procurement sources, etc.

D) Order of Seniority in Debt Payment and Non-Payment Forgiven by Contract

The credit rating herewith presented could be changed if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turn out to be inaccurate with regard to the order of seniority in repayment of interests and principal. JCR assumes the resultant change of the credit rating is most likely by a notch. The change could be as much as a few notches if the issuer's financial structure differs so much and thereby the balance between debts shifted so greatly. Rating change is also possible in case of the financial products for which non-payment of interest/ principal is contractually permissible, if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turns out to be inaccurate. The change of the credit rating is assumed to be by a notch but often as much as a few notches.

E) Rise and Fall in General Economy and Markets

The credit rating herewith presented could be changed if and when the assumptions made at the time of its determination turn out to be inaccurate with regard to the prospects of general economy and markets. JCR expects the change should be most likely by a notch but could be as much as a few notches, should the economy or the markets change so greatly.

14

Information on the Representations, Warranties, and Enforcement Mechanisms of an Asset-backed Security as Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(ii)(N) of rule 17g-7

- The credit rating herewith presented is not for an ABS product, and hence no relevant issue.

Japan Credit Rating Agency, Ltd.

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The Historical Performance of the Credit Rating

| Issuer Name | Issue Name | Publication Date | Rating | Outlook/Direction |
|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------|-------------------|
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Issuer(Long-term) | July 7, 2006 | A | Positive |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Issuer(Long-term) | October 16, 2006 | A+ | Stable |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Issuer(Long-term) | October 4, 2007 | A+ | Stable |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Issuer(Long-term) | October 7, 2008 | A+ | Stable |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Issuer(Long-term) | October 23, 2009 | A+ | Negative |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Issuer(Long-term) | October 5, 2010 | A+ | Stable |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Issuer(Long-term) | October 5, 2011 | A+ | Stable |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Issuer(Long-term) | September 27, 2012 | A | Stable |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Issuer(Long-term) | October 7, 2013 | A | Stable |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Issuer(Long-term) | September 30, 2014 | A | Positive |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Issuer(Long-term) | October 5, 2015 | A | Stable |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Issuer(Long-term) | October 5, 2016 | A | Stable |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Issuer(Long-term) | October 5, 2017 | A | Stable |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Issuer(Long-term) | October 17, 2017 | #A | Negative |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Issuer(Long-term) | March 7, 2018 | A | Negative |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Issuer(Long-term) | October 16, 2018 | A | Negative |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Issuer(Long-term) | October 4, 2019 | A | Negative |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Issuer(Long-term) | September 30, 2020 | A- | Stable |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Issuer(Long-term) | October 6, 2021 | A- | Stable |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Issuer(Long-term) | October 4, 2022 | A- | Stable |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Issuer(Long-term) | October 10, 2023 | A | Stable |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | CP | June 23, 1993 | J-1 | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | CP | June 16, 1995 | J-1 | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | CP | June 5, 1996 | J-1+ | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | CP | August 3, 1998 | J-1+ | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | CP | May 11, 1999 | #J-1+ | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | CP | July 5, 1999 | J-1 | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | CP | July 19, 2000 | J-1 | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | CP | August 28, 2001 | #J-1 | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | CP | December 26, 2001 | J-1 | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | CP | August 28, 2002 | J-2 | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | CP | October 2, 2003 | J-1 | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | CP | October 4, 2004 | J-1 | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | CP | October 12, 2005 | J-1 | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | CP | October 16, 2006 | J-1 | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | CP | October 4, 2007 | J-1 | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | CP | April 9, 2008 | J-1 | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | CP | October 7, 2008 | J-1 | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | CP | October 23, 2009 | J-1 | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | CP | October 5, 2010 | J-1 | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | CP | October 5, 2011 | J-1 | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | CP | September 27, 2012 | J-1 | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | CP | October 7, 2013 | J-1 | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | CP | September 30, 2014 | J-1 | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | CP | October 5, 2015 | J-1 | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | CP | October 5, 2016 | J-1 | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | CP | October 5, 2017 | J-1 | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | CP | October 17, 2017 | #J-1 | Negative |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | CP | March 7, 2018 | J-1 | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | CP | October 16, 2018 | J-1 | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | CP | October 4, 2019 | J-1 | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | CP | September 30, 2020 | J-1 | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | CP | October 6, 2021 | J-1 | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | CP | October 4, 2022 | J-1 | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | CP | October 10, 2023 | J-1 | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Shelf Registration | July 5, 2024 | A | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Bonds no.63 | May 15, 2015 | A | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Bonds no.63 | October 5, 2015 | A | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Bonds no.63 | October 5, 2016 | A | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Bonds no.63 | October 5, 2017 | A | |

The Historical Performance of the Credit Rating

| Issuer Name | Issue Name | Publication Date | Rating | Outlook/Direction |
|------------------|-------------|--------------------|--------|-------------------|
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Bonds no.63 | October 17, 2017 | #A | Negative |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Bonds no.63 | March 7, 2018 | A | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Bonds no.63 | October 16, 2018 | A | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Bonds no.63 | October 4, 2019 | A | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Bonds no.63 | September 30, 2020 | A- | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Bonds no.63 | October 6, 2021 | A- | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Bonds no.63 | October 4, 2022 | A- | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Bonds no.63 | October 10, 2023 | A | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Bonds no.65 | August 21, 2015 | A | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Bonds no.65 | October 5, 2015 | A | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Bonds no.65 | October 5, 2016 | A | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Bonds no.65 | October 5, 2017 | A | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Bonds no.65 | October 17, 2017 | #A | Negative |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Bonds no.65 | March 7, 2018 | A | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Bonds no.65 | October 16, 2018 | A | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Bonds no.65 | October 4, 2019 | A | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Bonds no.65 | September 30, 2020 | A- | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Bonds no.65 | October 6, 2021 | A- | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Bonds no.65 | October 4, 2022 | A- | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Bonds no.65 | October 10, 2023 | A | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Bonds no.67 | June 4, 2021 | A- | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Bonds no.67 | October 6, 2021 | A- | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Bonds no.67 | October 4, 2022 | A- | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Bonds no.67 | October 10, 2023 | A | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Bonds no.68 | June 2, 2023 | A- | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Bonds no.68 | October 10, 2023 | A | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Bonds no.69 | June 2, 2023 | A- | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Bonds no.69 | October 10, 2023 | A | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Bonds no.70 | April 19, 2024 | A | |
| Kobe Steel, Ltd. | Bonds no.71 | April 19, 2024 | A | |

Attestation Required by Paragraph (a)(1)(iii) of Rule 17g-7

I, Mikiya Kubota, have responsibility to this Rating Action and to the best of my knowledge:

- A) No part of the credit rating was influenced by any other business activities.
- B) The credit rating was based solely upon the merits of the obligor, security, or money market instrument being rated.
- C) The credit rating was an independent evaluation of the credit risk of the obligor, security, or money market instrument.

窪田 幹也

Mikiya Kubota

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