Commencement of RECOSUL Product Verification Tests in UAE

Nippon Oil Corporation (President: Shinji Nishio) is pleased to announce that we have started verification tests of RECOSUL* products used in the sewage system in Al Ain City, UAE, as part of our "technical research on effective use of sulfur from refineries in UAE" within the framework of "projects to promote infrastructure development, such as the petroleum industry in oil producing countries," carried out by the Japan Cooperation Center, Petroleum.

This technical research is going to be carried out until 2010 in UAE, a country with a excess supply of sulfur which results from desulfurization process in crude oil refining etc, with the aim of contributing to stable refinery operations by creating new demand for sulfur through proving the technology used by RECOSUL (a modified sulfur solidified substance).

More specifically, together with UAE University, we will carry out verification tests of RECOSUL products for use in sewage systems and the sea. In the tests for use in sewage systems, we will examine the effects such as acid resistance, by installing test pipes in Al Ain City’s sewage facility thanks to the cooperation of Abu Dhabi Sewerage Services Company. In the test for use in the sea, we will place fish reefs made from RECOSUL and inspect the effects with the cooperation of the UAE Ministry of Environment and Water’s research center for marine resources.

As the first phase, the RECOSUL-made sewage pipes and one manhole, which were manufactured in Japan and provided by Nippon Oil Corporation, have been installed at the sites, and we have started verification tests for use in sewage systems.

Since our and moreover the Japanese petroleum industry’s technical capabilities in UAE, an oil producing country, have been highly regarded, through the promotion of this project we expect collaborative relationships between UAE and Japan to be reinforced.

*RECOSUL is a concrete-like construction material, made by mixing “sulfur intermediate material,” composed of modified sulfur (which is produced by attaching an additive to sulfur at a temperature between 130°C and 150°C) and micronized coal ash, and aggregate including sand and gravel, and casting the mixture into a mold and then hardening it by cooling it down gradually. Compared to cement concrete, RECOSUL has exceptional strength and resistance (to acid and salt) and has been commercialized for use in fish reefs (algal reefs), U-shaped gutters for drainage ditches, sewage pipes and anticorrosive panels in sewage facilities in Japan. RECOSUL’s highly effective manufacturing system is being developed as a Japan Petroleum Energy Center project.

Sewage pipes made from RECOSUL

Fish reefs made from RECOSUL

Attached document: Sewage system products installation work