

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	CP	
NIPPON STEEL CORPORATION	5401	<Affirmation>	J-1+
JFE Holdings, Inc.	5411	<Affirmation>	J-1+
Kobe Steel, Ltd.	5406	<Affirmation>	J-1

(See page 4 and beyond for details about ratings on individual bonds, etc.)

Rating Viewpoints

- (1) JCR has reviewed the ratings of blast furnace companies and affirmed the ratings of NIPPON STEEL CORPORATION and two JFE Group companies (JFE Holdings, Inc. and JFE Steel Corporation) and Kobe Steel, Ltd. with stable outlook.
- (2) JCR believes that their business performance will be solid for the time being as earnings power is improving thanks to progress in price revisions and cost reductions. In addition to raw material price hikes, cost increases in energy, secondary materials, etc. have been reflected in selling prices in stages, and profitability is being secured compared to the past. Furthermore, blast furnace companies have lowered their breakeven points by reviewing their production system, including the suspension of blast furnace operations. Demand for steel products other than that for automotive applications is generally firm, and demand for automotive applications is expected to recover in the medium term as the shortage of semiconductors and components is resolved, which should support their performance for the time being. The financial condition of each company is improving as a result of the turnaround in business performance. Based on the above, JCR has affirmed the ratings on the 3 blast furnace companies with Stable outlook.
- (3) The risk of economic deterioration overseas is increasing. Since October 2021, economic slowdown in China has caused the supply-demand balance for steel products in Asia to loosen, putting downward pressure on the steel products market. If China's economic recovery does not progress, overseas steel product market prices will not rise, and profitability of exports by blast furnace companies may continue to be severe. In addition, as countries in Europe and U.S. accelerate monetary tightening, there are concerns that the global economy will deteriorate in the future, weakening demand for steel products.
- (4) In the long term, environment surrounding blast furnace companies is likely to become increasingly severe due to declining domestic demand and intensifying competition with overseas manufacturers. Each company is focusing on shifting its production system to the one that can match the declining demand, improving profitability by expanding sales of high value-added products, and strengthening overseas operations, thereby making progress in addressing future business risks.

- (5) The global trend toward decarbonization is intensifying, and blast furnace companies are required to work toward achieving carbon neutrality. Although no innovative technology has been established to replace the current production process, if they can get ahead of the competition in technological development with overseas manufacturers in the future, they will be able to gain an advantageous position in the global steel industry. On the other hand, if they lag behind their competitors in this field, there is a risk that their competitiveness will decline, putting downward pressure on each company's performance.
- (6) The financial position of each company has been improving since the fiscal year ended March 31, 2021 (FY2020). In addition to the progress of recovery of business performance, cash measures such as asset sales and the use of hybrid financing have contributed to this improvement. While it is unlikely that their capital expenditures will significantly decrease due to increased production of products for which demand is expected to grow and the replacement of aging facilities, JCR believes that their financial structure will continue improving as they increase their equity capital in line with profit accumulation. On the other hand, over the medium to long term, investment burden for carbon neutrality is expected to increase, and the timing and amount of investment need to be confirmed.

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 broad range of highly competitive products and a strong business base, including the technological capabilities, sales force, and blue-chip customer base. As Japan's largest steelmaker, the Company is the leader in the Japanese steel industry and has one of the largest production capacities in the world. It is strengthening its overseas business by establishing an integrated production system in India, Brazil, North America, etc. In February 2022, the Company acquired G/GJ Steel, a local electric furnace manufacturer in Thailand, where demand for steel products is expected to grow.
- (2) Since FY2021, profits have increased to a level higher than that before the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic, and the Company is expected to post strong results for the time being. In addition to the revision to selling prices in response to rising prices of raw materials and fuel, fixed costs are decreasing due to the optimization of the production system. The overseas business is contributing more to profits due to rising steel prices and withdrawal from unprofitable businesses. In the medium term, the product mix is expected to improve with increased production of ultra-high-tensile steel sheets and electromagnetic steel sheets. In addition, demand for automotive applications is expected to recover in the future, and its production and sales volumes are expected to increase. The Company's financial position is improving on the back of its strong performance. Based on the above, JCR has affirmed the rating with Stable outlook.
- (3) Business profit (IFRS) for FY2022 is expected to decrease to 800 billion yen (down 14.7% YoY), but still a high level of profit is planned. Although production and sales volumes are expected to decline and export profitability is expected to deteriorate, cost reductions and progress in price hikes in Japan are expected to curb the deterioration in performance. The Company can secure a certain level of profit in FY2023 and beyond. Profitability is expected to improve as production and sales volumes are expected to increase on the back of recovering demand from the automobile industry, and cost increases in raw materials and energy can be reflected in selling prices.
- (4) DER (after the equity content evaluation of hybrid instruments) at the end of first quarter of FY2022 was 0.5x, an improvement from 0.7x at the end of FY2020. Strong performance led to an increase in equity attributable to owners of the parent company. Although the Company plans to make capital investments to increase production of products for which demands are expected to grow and to renew aging facilities, the high level of cash flow generating ability can curb the increase in interest-bearing debt. In addition, the Company will continue to accumulate profits, which will strengthen its financial base.

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) The JFE Group is one of Japan's two largest steelmaker groups and is characterized by the efficient production system that is consolidated into two large-scale steelworks in the eastern and western Japan. The Group has strong technological capabilities and handles many high value-added products such as ultra-high-tensile steel sheets and electromagnetic steel sheets. It has also excellent customer bases in Japan and overseas. Overseas, it has an equity stake of 15.0% in JSW Steel, an Indian blast furnace steelmaker, and has also manufacturing bases for automotive steel sheets and other products, mainly in China and Southeast Asia.
- (2) The Group is expected to be able to secure the current level of profits for the time being. The demand for steel products is expected to pick up as automobile production recovers in the medium term. In addition, profitability is improving as it progressed its reviews of the selling prices in response to rising prices of raw materials and fuel, etc. The Group's cost competitiveness will increase as fixed costs decrease due to the suspension of the blast furnaces in the Keihin District of the East Japan Works from September 2023 onward. Furthermore, its product mix will improve over the medium term thanks to increased production of large and heavy plates for offshore wind power generation and electromagnetic steel sheets for electric vehicles, which should improve profitability. Its financial position is on a gradual recovery trend, reflecting the turnaround in its business performance. Based on the above, JCR has affirmed the rating with Stable outlook.
- (3) Business profit (IFRS) for FY2022 is expected to decrease to 235 billion yen (down 43.6% YoY), but still a solid profit is planned. Although prices of raw materials and fuel will rise and inventory valuation differences will deteriorate, deterioration in performance is expected to be controlled by sales price revisions and cost reductions. The Group can maintain a certain level of profit in FY2023 and beyond. Profitability is expected to improve as cost increases in raw materials and energy are reflected in selling prices. In addition, cost reductions through a review of the production system will boost performance.
- (4) DER (after the equity content evaluation of hybrid instruments) at the end of first quarter of FY2022 was 0.9x, roughly on par with the end of FY2020. While the equity attributable to owners of the parent increased due to improved business performance, working capital requirements increased due to higher raw material prices, and interest-bearing debt also increased. Going forward, the Group will likely continue to make capital investments to become carbon neutral and renew aging facilities, making it difficult to expect a significant reduction in interest-bearing debt. However, its financial structure is expected to gradually improve as the equity attributable to owners of the parent company is expected to increase with profit accumulation.

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") has been diversifying its business, promoting a diversified management with materials, machinery, and electric power as its three pillars. By diversifying its

sources of earnings, it aims to build a structure in which even if profits in some businesses decline, the other businesses will cover for them, thereby limiting downside risks to the performance. Since the materials-related business has continued to struggle and become a factor in performance deterioration, the Company is working to strengthen the earnings power of this business through a review of selling prices, cost reductions, an improved product mix, etc.

- (2) The Company's business performance is becoming more stable. The performance of the materials-related business is improving against the backdrop of recovering demand and progress in price revisions. In the machinery-related business, the construction machinery business is struggling due to intensifying competition with Chinese manufacturers, but reorganization of the production system and expansion of supplemental businesses such as remote control systems are expected to boost earnings power over the medium term. In addition, the Kobe Power Plant Unit No. 4 will be operational for the full fiscal year in FY2023, which is expected to improve the profit level of the electric power business. On the other hand, profitability of some businesses, such as aluminum sheet and aluminum extrusion, still remains an issue to be addressed, and the results of efforts to strengthen earnings power should continue to be confirmed. In addition, while the Company's financial position is improving, it has not recovered to the level prior to FY2019, when its performance significantly deteriorated. Based on the above, JCR has affirmed the Company's ratings with Stable outlook.
- (3) Ordinary income is expected to decrease to 80 billion yen (down 14.2% YoY) in FY2022, but ordinary income excluding inventory valuation effects is expected to increase to 55.5 billion yen (up 31.4% YoY). Profitability in the steel business is expected to improve with the revision of selling prices, which is then expected to boost performance. The current level of profit is expected to be secured in FY2023 and beyond. Profitability of the materials-related business is expected to improve further as the current cost increase is reflected in selling prices. In addition, the improvement in the profit level of the electric power business is also expected to boost performance.
- (4) DER at the end of FY2021 was 1.1x (0.8x excluding project finance), an improvement from 1.4x at the end of FY2020 (1.1x excluding project finance). The Company reduced interest-bearing debt and expanded its equity capital in response to the turnaround in business performance. The Company's financial structure will continue improving, as large investments have finished, capital expenditures are expected to remain at the same level as the depreciation and amortization expenses, and business performance is expected to remain solid.

Masayoshi Mizukawa, Akihiro Kondo

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. 1	30	2019.06.14	2024.06.20	0.140	AA-
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. 4	40	2020.06.17	2023.06.20	0.050	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. 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. 3*	10	2017.05.25	2024.05.20	0.220	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. 7*	20	2018.06.12	2023.06.20	0.120	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-
1st Series Deferrable Interest and Callable Unsecured Subordinated Bonds					
	70	2019.09.12	2079.09.12	(Note 1)	A
2nd Series Deferrable Interest and Callable Unsecured Subordinated Bonds					
	30	2019.09.12	2079.09.12	(Note 2)	A
3rd Series Deferrable Interest and Callable Unsecured Subordinated Bonds					
	200	2019.09.12	2079.09.12	(Note 3)	A

* Issued by NIPPON STEEL & SUMITOMO METAL CORPORATION

** Issued by Nippon Steel Corporation

Notes:

1. 0.71% from Sept. 13, 2019 to Sept. 12, 2024. Base Interest Rate + 0.85% from Sept. 13, 2024 to Sept. 12, 2029. Base Interest Rate + 1.10% from Sept. 13, 2029 to Sept. 12, 2044. Base Interest Rate + 1.85% after that date.
2. 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.
3. 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.

Issue	Amount (JPY bn)	Execution Date yyyy.mm.dd	Repayment Date yyyy.mm.dd	Interest Rate	Rating
Subordinated Loan dated July 2, 2020 (Tranche A)	300	2020.07.21	2080.07.22	(Note 1)	A
Subordinated Loan dated July 2, 2020 (Tranche B)	150	2020.07.21	2080.07.22	(Note 2)	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.

Shelf Registration: Preliminary AA-

Maximum: JPY 450 billion

Valid: two years effective from August 12, 2021

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. 21*	10	2014.03.13	2024.03.13	0.804	AA-
Bonds no. 22*	20	2014.09.19	2024.09.19	0.703	AA-
Bonds no. 24	10	2018.03.01	2023.03.01	0.110	AA-
Bonds no. 25	20	2018.05.21	2025.05.21	0.260	AA-
Bonds no. 26	10	2018.11.22	2023.11.22	0.150	AA-
Bonds no. 27	30	2019.05.27	2024.05.27	0.170	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. 30	10	2019.09.20	2024.09.20	0.120	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. 33	20	2020.07.14	2023.07.14	0.050	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-
1st Series Deferrable Interest and Callable Unsecured Subordinated Bonds	35	2021.06.10	2081.06.10	(Note)	A

* Guaranteed by JFE Steel Corporation

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 A)	200.0	2018.03.19	2078.03.19	(Note 4)	A
Loan agreement dated Feb. 16, 2018 (Tranche B)	100.0	2018.03.19	2078.03.19	(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. 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.

Shelf Registration: Preliminary AA-

Maximum: JPY 300 billion

Valid: two years effective from July 8, 2021

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-

Shelf Registration: Preliminary A-

Maximum: JPY 200 billion

Valid: two years effective from July 7, 2022

CP: J-1

Maximum: JPY 200 billion

Rating Assignment Date: September 29, 2022

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" (November 7, 2014), "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) and "Ratings of Hybrid Securities" (September 10, 2012) in Information about JCR Ratings on JCR's website (<https://www.jcr.co.jp/en/>).

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.

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

Information herein has been obtained by JCR from the issuers and other sources believed to be accurate and reliable. However, because of the possibility of human or mechanical error as well as other factors, JCR makes no representation or warranty, express or implied, as to accuracy, results, adequacy, timeliness, completeness or merchantability, or fitness for any particular purpose, with respect to any such information, and is not responsible for any errors or omissions, or for results obtained from the use of such information. Under no circumstances will JCR be liable for any special, indirect, incidental or consequential damages of any kind caused by the use of any such information, including but not limited to, lost opportunity or lost money, whether in contract, tort, strict liability or otherwise, and whether such damages are foreseeable or unforeseeable. JCR's ratings and credit assessments are statements of JCR's current and comprehensive opinion regarding redemption possibility, etc. of financial obligations assumed by the issuers or financial products, and not statements of opinion regarding any risk other than credit risk, such as market liquidity risk or price fluctuation risk. JCR's ratings and credit assessments are statements of opinion, and not statements of fact as to credit risk decisions or recommendations regarding decisions to purchase, sell or hold any securities such as individual bonds or commercial paper. The ratings and credit assessments may be changed, suspended or withdrawn as a result of changes in or unavailability of information as well as other factors. JCR receives a rating fee paid by issuers for conducting rating services in principle. JCR retains all rights pertaining to this document, including JCR's rating data. Any reproduction, adaptation, alteration, etc. of this document, including such rating data, is prohibited, whether or not wholly or partly, without prior consent of JCR.

JCR is registered as a "Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organization" with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission with respect to the following four classes. (1) Financial institutions, brokers and dealers, (2) Insurance Companies, (3) Corporate Issuers, (4) Issuers of government securities, municipal securities and foreign government securities.

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:	October 4, 2022

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.

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
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	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	Shelf Registration	August 12, 2021	AA-	
NIPPON STEEL	Shelf Registration	October 6, 2021	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.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-	

The Historical Performance of the Credit Rating

Issuer Name	Issue Name	Publication Date	Rating	Outlook/Direction
NIPPON STEEL	Bonds no.1	October 6, 2021	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.3	May 16, 2017	AA-	
NIPPON STEEL	Bonds no.3	October 5, 2017	AA-	
NIPPON STEEL	Bonds no.3	October 16, 2018	AA-	
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.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.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.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.7	June 6, 2018	AA-	
NIPPON STEEL	Bonds no.7	October 16, 2018	AA-	
NIPPON STEEL	Bonds no.7	October 4, 2019	AA-	
NIPPON STEEL	Bonds no.7	September 30, 2020	AA-	
NIPPON STEEL	Bonds no.7	October 6, 2021	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.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.1	June 6, 2019	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.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.3	June 6, 2019	AA-	
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.1(subordinated)	September 6, 2019	A	
NIPPON STEEL	Bonds no.1(subordinated)	October 4, 2019	A	
NIPPON STEEL	Bonds no.1(subordinated)	September 30, 2020	A	
NIPPON STEEL	Bonds no.1(subordinated)	October 6, 2021	A	

The Historical Performance of the Credit Rating

Issuer Name	Issue Name	Publication Date	Rating	Outlook/Direction
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.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.4	June 11, 2020	AA-	
NIPPON STEEL	Bonds no.4	September 30, 2020	AA-	
NIPPON STEEL	Bonds no.4	October 6, 2021	AA-	
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.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	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 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	

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

I, Shigenobu Tonomura, 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.

殿村 成信

Shigenobu Tonomura

General Manager of Corporate Rating Department II

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



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:	October 4, 2022

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.

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 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.	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.	Shelf Registration	July 8, 2021	AA-	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Shelf Registration	October 6, 2021	AA-	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Bonds no.21	March 7, 2014	AA-	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Bonds no.21	September 30, 2014	AA-	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Bonds no.21	October 5, 2015	AA-	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Bonds no.21	October 5, 2016	AA-	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Bonds no.21	October 5, 2017	AA-	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Bonds no.21	October 16, 2018	AA-	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Bonds no.21	October 4, 2019	AA-	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Bonds no.21	September 30, 2020	AA-	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Bonds no.21	October 6, 2021	AA-	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Bonds no.22	September 12, 2014	AA-	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Bonds no.22	September 30, 2014	AA-	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Bonds no.22	October 5, 2015	AA-	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Bonds no.22	October 5, 2016	AA-	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Bonds no.22	October 5, 2017	AA-	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Bonds no.22	October 16, 2018	AA-	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Bonds no.22	October 4, 2019	AA-	

The Historical Performance of the Credit Rating

Issuer Name	Issue Name	Publication Date	Rating	Outlook/Direction
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Bonds no.22	September 30, 2020	AA-	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Bonds no.22	October 6, 2021	AA-	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Bonds no.24	February 23, 2018	AA-	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Bonds no.24	October 16, 2018	AA-	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Bonds no.24	October 4, 2019	AA-	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Bonds no.24	September 30, 2020	AA-	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Bonds no.24	October 6, 2021	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.26	November 16, 2018	AA-	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Bonds no.26	October 4, 2019	AA-	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Bonds no.26	September 30, 2020	AA-	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Bonds no.26	October 6, 2021	AA-	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Bonds no.27	May 21, 2019	AA-	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Bonds no.27	October 4, 2019	AA-	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Bonds no.27	September 30, 2020	AA-	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Bonds no.27	October 6, 2021	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.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.30	September 13, 2019	AA-	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Bonds no.30	October 4, 2019	AA-	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Bonds no.30	September 30, 2020	AA-	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Bonds no.30	October 6, 2021	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.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.33	July 8, 2020	AA-	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Bonds no.33	September 30, 2020	AA-	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Bonds no.33	October 6, 2021	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.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.1(subordinated)	June 4, 2021	A	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Bonds no.1(subordinated)	October 6, 2021	A	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Bonds no.36	June 3, 2022	AA-	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Bonds no.37	June 3, 2022	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	

The Historical Performance of the Credit Rating

Issuer Name	Issue Name	Publication Date	Rating	Outlook/Direction
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 D	June 15, 2016	A	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Loan(subordinated) Tranche D	October 5, 2016	A	
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 A	February 16, 2018	A	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Loan(subordinated) Tranche A	October 16, 2018	A	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Loan(subordinated) Tranche A	October 4, 2019	A	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Loan(subordinated) Tranche A	September 30, 2020	A	
JFE Holdings, Inc.	Loan(subordinated) Tranche A	October 6, 2021	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	

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

I, Shigenobu Tonomura, 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.

殿村 成信

Shigenobu Tonomura

General Manager of Corporate Rating Department II

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



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:	October 4, 2022

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.

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

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

I, Shigenobu Tonomura, 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.

殿村 成信

Shigenobu Tonomura

General Manager of Corporate Rating Department II

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



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:	October 4, 2022

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

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 parent company or subsidiaries, guarantor or other providers of credit enhancement, the government of the issuer's business domicile or other related parties' status and stance of support/ assistance for the issuer. 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 there is a major change on the part of related parties, such as replacement, disappearance, some drastic improvement/ deterioration of financial grounds/ balances, etc.

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
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.	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.	Shelf Registration	July 7, 2020	A	
Kobe Steel, Ltd.	Shelf Registration	September 30, 2020	A-	
Kobe Steel, Ltd.	Shelf Registration	October 6, 2021	A-	
Kobe Steel, Ltd.	Shelf Registration	July 7, 2022	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	
Kobe Steel, Ltd.	Bonds no.63	October 17, 2017	#A	Negative

The Historical Performance of the Credit Rating

Issuer Name	Issue Name	Publication Date	Rating	Outlook/Direction
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.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.67	June 4, 2021	A-	
Kobe Steel, Ltd.	Bonds no.67	October 6, 2021	A-	

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

I, Shigenobu Tonomura, 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.

殿村 成信

Shigenobu Tonomura

General Manager of Corporate Rating Department II

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