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## **Court dismisses the appeal against Kobe Steel and a Group company**

Kobe Steel, Ltd. announces that the Osaka High Court handed down a judgement dismissing the appeal by the appellants against the Kobe District Court's judgement that dismissed the plaintiffs' claims raised against the Company and its wholly owned subsidiary Kobelco Power Kobe No. 2, Inc. (hereinafter, the Companies) on March 20, 2023, as announced in the press release "Legal appeal filed against Kobe Steel and a Group company" as of June 29, 2023.

### **1. Background of the appeal filed against the Companies**

The Companies undertook environmental impact assessment procedures for the plan to build the Kobe Power Plant's No. 3 and No. 4 units (hereinafter, the new power plant), which are currently in operation at 2, Nadahama Higashicho, Nada-ku, Kobe, Hyogo Prefecture (the procedures completed on June 25, 2018, with the end of the public inspection period for the environmental impact assessment report), as well as made efforts to provide information and explanations in order to gain the understanding of the parties involved, including the residents of the immediate area. Despite such efforts, a lawsuit demanding injunctions on the construction of the new power plant was filed from those who claimed that by living in the vicinity of the new power plant site, they could suffer from the operation. The lawsuit was dismissed by the Kobe District Court as the court of first instance, but the appellants were dissatisfied with the judgement of the first instance and thereby filed the appeal.

### **2. Overview of the appellants**

34 people who claim to be living in the vicinity of the new power plant

### **3. Content of the appeal**

The appellants sought a judgment to rescind the judgment of the first instance and to order the Companies and one other company to stop the operation of the new plant.

### **4. Future outlook**

This judgement has no impact on the Companies' business performance. If the appellants appeal to the Supreme Court, we will continue to respond appropriately.