

To: J-PARC Director, Yujiro Ikeda

Re: Shutdown of the Ohta-danchi houses

In many experimental groups at the J-PARC Hadron Experimental Facility (so-called Hadron Hall), a certain number of members have to stay at J-PARC for a long time not only during the beam time but also preparation stage of the experiment. In order to maintain the safety and health of the users at J-PARC, it is of essential importance to secure accommodations continuously. Recently, we have been informed that the Ohta-danchi houses will be restored to JAEA by the end of March, 2016. We recognize that the availability of accommodation for long-staying users will be lost by the shutdown of the Ohta-danchi houses. This will make it much harder to reserve rooms in the Tokai dormitory, in particular, a busy beam time season. As a result, it will affect the travel cost not only for the Hadron users but also all the other J-PARC users.

We report the use of accommodations for long-staying users, in Reference 1 below. It is found that both the Minouchi and Ohta-danchi houses are frequently used since the J-PARC facilities were opened even in the construction state of J-PARC, except for the shutdown periods due to the East-Japan Earthquake and the failure of the T1 target at the Hadron Hall. In this occasion, we collected requests for the accommodations and its management from the HUA users. In particular, we strongly desire the J-PARC center to consider seriously the requests from foreigners since the J-PARC is an international research institute open for users from all over the world.

In the Hadron Hall, the upgrade of the beam power and construction of new beam lines are still under way. A lot of experimental programs are waiting for beam time, thus fulfilment of accommodations at J-PARC are more and more desired. The HUA is deeply concerned about the shutdown of the Ohta-danchi houses and strongly requests an improvement in the available accommodations at J-PARC.

21 August, 2014

On behalf of the users at the Hadron Hall,
Hadron User Association
President Tomofumi Nagae

Reference 1 : use of accommodations for long-staying users (HUA members)

Houses	# of used houses	# of users per house (*)	Period used
Minouchi	2	4	August, 2009~March, 2011
Ohta-danchi	1	3 ~ 6	December,2012~September, 2013

(*)Typical # of users. The users from many affiliations, such as Tohoku U., Osaka U., Kyoto U., and Seoul Nat'l U. have used.

Reference 2 : Requests for the J-PARC accommodations

1. While the Tokai dorm is really very nice, what J-PARC needs (somewhat desperately, from my perspective) are some small but well-equipped and of course fully furnished apartments, such as the ones at KEK. This would make it much more attractive for visitors to come for longer periods with their spouse.
2. We have four students staying in KEK or JPARC dormitories for 10 weeks during the summer. In addition we have one or two students who stay at JPARC for several months during Hadron Hall operations. In the past the students have stayed at Tokai I or Masago. We have not used Ohta Danchi or Minouchi.
3. Other requests:
 - A) Printers available from the JLAN or GWLAN network
 - B) Discount for long-stay users
 - C) Lounge or meeting room (like those Tsukuba dormitory)
 - D) Occupancy limit for participants of a workshop or a collaboration meeting (According to the current rule for reservation, a group reservation seems to have priority rather than those for general users.)