# **News Release**



Japan Credit Rating Agency, Ltd.

22-D-0567 September 20, 2022

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

### Japan Earthquake Reinsurance Co., Ltd. (security code: -)

<Affirmation>

АА+р
Stable

#### Rationale

- (1) Japan Earthquake Reinsurance Co., Ltd. ("JER") is Japan's sole reinsurance company specialized in residential earthquake insurance, which was established with capital contribution from 20 Japanese non-life insurance companies based on the Act on Earthquake Insurance (the "Act") that was promulgated and enforced in 1966. Characteristics of risks associated with earthquakes make it difficult for the residential earthquake insurance system to be operated only by JER and direct nonlife insurance companies and thus require the Japanese government's involvement. Under the residential earthquake insurance system, the government, non-life insurance companies and JER construct a reinsurance scheme to ensure claim payments to individuals. JCR strongly incorporates the government's possible support for the stable operation of this system into JER's rating in light of the social significance of the system and JER's position under the system.
- (2) JER plays a key role in the residential earthquake insurance system as all insurance policies directly underwritten by non-life insurance companies are ceded to JER, which then homogenizes risk exposures and retrocedes them to non-life insurance companies and the government. The maximum amount of insurance claims to be paid per earthquake, etc. and liabilities of the private sector and the government are predetermined, and there is a framework under which the government will be liable for any damage in excess of the limit set for the private sector. The maximum amount to be paid is calculated on the assumption that an earthquake as devastating as the Great Kanto Earthquake recurs and is currently set at 12,000.0 billion yen (224.9 billion yen for the private sector and 11,775.1 billion yen for the government). Cumulative premiums to cover insurance claims to be paid amount to 2,216.1 billion yen as the government's policy reserves in the Special Account for Earthquake Reinsurance).
- (3) Article 8 of the Act stipulates that, in the event that it becomes necessary for private insurance companies, etc. to pay insurance claims in excess of risk reserves, the government shall endeavor to make funding arrangements or provide financing. Even though there have been no cases requiring the government's financial support, etc. thus far, JCR assumes that the government will most likely provide liquidity and other forms of support in cases of a large earthquake, etc., if necessary.
- (4) The residential earthquake insurance system has significantly helped the victims of earthquakes, etc. to rebuild their lives, as well as the restoration and reconstruction of the affected areas. The prompt and reliable payments of insurance claims based on a rough estimate for damages caused by the Great East Japan Earthquake and the Kumamoto Earthquake indicate that the system is being surely operated. At the same time, however, with an increase in the number of earthquakes and growth in the number of earthquake insurance policies since the Great East Japan Earthquake, there have been a spate of insurance claims paid out of the insurance liability of the private sector, including JER, thus drastically reducing private-sector reserves from 1,020.0 billion yen immediately before the Great East Japan Earthquake to 251.6 billion yen as of March 31, 2022. Therefore, the balance of privatesector reserves need to be quickly brought back to the previous level; in fact, a special allocation to increase the share of private-sector reinsurance premiums started with the FY2020 Earthquake Reinsurance Special Account budget. This allocation is expected to continue until private-sector reserves recover to around 1,000 billion yen, which however will probably require a certain amount of time partly because of the impact of reinsurance claims paid in the wake of Fukushima Prefecture offshore earthquakes in February 2021 and March 2022. That said, JCR views that the fact that the system is being reviewed as necessary for more stable operation underpins the certainty of the government's support for the system's operation.

Tomohiro Miyao, Seito Achiha

#### Rating Issuer: Japan Earthquake Reinsurance Co., Ltd.

<Affirmation> Ability to Pay Insurance Claims: AA+p

Outlook: Stable

#### Rating Assignment Date: September 15, 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) and "Non-Life Insurance" (July 1, 2013) in Information about JCR Ratings on JCR's website (https://www.jcr.co.jp/en/).

The aforementioned credit ratings are unsolicited. Except in cases of a credit rating for a sovereign, JCR indicates affix "p" after a rating symbol to distinguish it from a rating with solicitation. The undisclosed information, which has material influence on the credit rating, was obtained from the rating stakeholder.

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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

lssuer:	Japan Earthquake Reinsurance Co.,Ltd.
Rating Publication Date:	September 20, 2022

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.
- - 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

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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.

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E) Order of Seniority in Debt Payment

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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.

- 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 Rule17g-7



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

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

• JCR holds its basic policies for securing the quality of information as a base of due diligence for the determination of credit ratings. The information used as a base for the determination of credit rating herewith presented satisfies such policies, which include the audit by an independent auditor, the warranty made by the issuer, the publication by the issuer, some independent media or, otherwise, JCR analyst's scrutiny, etc.

- JCR sees no particular weakness in the quality of information used for the determination of the credit rating herewith presented as compared to the information used in other cases of the credit rating for comparable issuers or ratable objects.
- If the credit rating is an Indication, please see the report for Indication.

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

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

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

#### A) Business Bases

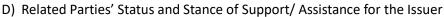
The credit rating is subject to alteration if there is improvement or deterioration of the issuer's business bases, since its revenue, etc. may improve or deteriorate by the change in its business management policies, clients' preferences, competitive situation, or a technological innovation. The resultant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

#### B) Financial Grounds and Asset Quality

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

#### C) Liquidity Positions

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



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.

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#### 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.

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.

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Issuer Name Japan Earthquake Reinsurance	Issue Name	Publication Date	Rating	Outlook/Direction
Co., Ltd.	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	March 18, 1999	AAp	
Japan Earthquake Reinsurance Co., Ltd.	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	November 17, 1999	AAp	
Japan Earthquake Reinsurance Co., Ltd.	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	December 12, 2000	AAp	
Japan Earthquake Reinsurance Co., Ltd.	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	December 13, 2001	AAp	
Japan Earthquake Reinsurance Co., Ltd.	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	April 4, 2003	AAp	
Japan Earthquake Reinsurance Co., Ltd.	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	February 7, 2005	AAp	
Japan Earthquake Reinsurance Co., Ltd.	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	February 1, 2006	AAp	Stable
Japan Earthquake Reinsurance Co., Ltd.	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	February 27, 2007	AAp	Stable
Japan Earthquake Reinsurance Co., Ltd.	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	February 29, 2008	AAp	Stable
Japan Earthquake Reinsurance Co., Ltd.	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	April 14, 2009	AAp	Stable
Japan Earthquake Reinsurance Co., Ltd.	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	September 27, 2010	AAp	Stable
Japan Earthquake Reinsurance Co., Ltd.	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	December 28, 2011	AAp	Stable
Japan Earthquake Reinsurance Co., Ltd.	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	January 10, 2013	AAp	Stable
Japan Earthquake Reinsurance Co., Ltd.	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	February 26, 2014	AAp	Stable
Japan Earthquake Reinsurance Co., Ltd.	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	April 15, 2015	AAp	Stable
Japan Earthquake Reinsurance Co., Ltd.	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	June 7, 2016	AAp	Stable
Japan Earthquake Reinsurance Co., Ltd.	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	July 15, 2016	AAp	Negative
Japan Earthquake Reinsurance Co., Ltd.	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	June 28, 2017	AAp	Negative
Japan Earthquake Reinsurance Co., Ltd.	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	July 6, 2018	AAp	Negative
Japan Earthquake Reinsurance Co., Ltd.	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	August 10, 2018	AAp	Stable
Japan Earthquake Reinsurance Co., Ltd.	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	August 29, 2019	AAp	Stable
Japan Earthquake Reinsurance Co., Ltd.	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	September 17, 2020	AA+p	Stable
Japan Earthquake Reinsurance Co., Ltd.	Ability to Pay Insurance Claims	September 22, 2021	AA+p	Stable

The Historical Performance of the Credit Rating

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

I, Tomohiro Miyao, 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.

宫尾知浩

Tomohiro Miyao General Manager of Financial Institution Rating Department

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