



Japan Credit Rating Agency, Ltd.

19-D-1264 March 31, 2020

— JCR Green Bond Evaluation by Japan Credit Rating Agency, Ltd. ——

Japan Credit Rating Agency, Ltd. (JCR) announces the following Green Bond Evaluation Results.

## JCR Assigned <u>Green 1</u> to the Bonds of Mitsubishi Electric Credit Corporation

Subject	:	Mitsubishi Electric Credit Co., Ltd. 3rd unsecured corporate bonds (Private Placement for Qualified Institutional Investors) (Green Bond)			
Туре	:	Private Placement Bonds			
Issue Amount	:	JPY 2 billion			
Interest Rate	:	0.25% (per annum)			
Issue Date	:	March 31, 2020			
Redemption Date	:	March 31, 2025			
Method of Repayment	:	Bullet			
Use of Proceeds	:	Funds to refinance loans to entities owning solar power generation facilities			

## <Green Bond Evaluation Results>

Overall evaluation	Green 1
Greenness Evaluation (Use of Proceeds)	g1
Management, Operation and Transparency Evaluation	ml

## Chapter 1: Evaluation Overview

Mitsubishi Electric Credit Corporation (the "Company") is the finance company in the Mitsubishi Electric Group. The Company has been established in 1970 as Mitsubishi Electric Product Credit Co., Ltd., merged 10 regional sales companies and renamed in 1982. In March 2003, Diamond Lease Company Limited (now Mitsubishi UFJ Lease & Finance Company Limited ("MUL")) took the Company's equity stake. The Company is an equity-method affiliate of Mitsubishi Electric Corporation ("MEC") and MUL (both of capital share are 45%).

The Company engages in leasing and installment sales of equipment and other items used by MEC and the Mitsubishi Electric Group, as well as leasing of Mitsubishi Group products and commercial distribution. The Company also provides credit services for household appliances and all-electric appliances, loans to Mitsubishi Electric employees, and apartment renovation loans for homeowner associations.

The Company operates its business in accordance with the Environmental Vision of the Mitsubishi Electric Group and Environmental Policy of the Company. The Company provides financing to customers who own solar and other

1/13



renewable energy power generation facilities. JCR also confirmed that the Company intends to expand the businesses regarding the leasing of environmentally friendly energy-saving products such as air conditioning and refrigeration equipment, LEDs, and solar panels in the future.

Furthermore, in order to realize a sustainable world, environmental and social initiatives are expected to be further strengthened in the future, including the commencement of consideration of initiatives that contribute to SDGs through business activities.

The subject to be evaluated is private placement bonds issued by the Company (the "Bonds"). The proceeds of the bonds will be used to refinance loans to businesses that own solar power generation facilities. JCR confirmed that the solar power generation facilities subject to the use of proceeds have  $CO_2$  saving effect of the yearly averaged 4,694t. JCR also confirmed that the two solar power generation facilities financed by the Company are taking appropriate measures to avoid negative environmental impacts when implementing projects. JCR also confirmed that the three solar power generation facilities financed by the Company are taking appropriate measures to avoid negative environmental impacts when implementing projects.

With regard to the management and operational structure, in the process of selecting projects, the general manager and vice president reviewed the selection and process of the project before the getting an approval by the President. After the approval of the president, the Credit Department of MUL makes final approval. In terms of management of proceeds, the internal control and external audit systems are properly established. The Company disclosed the necessary information before the issuance of the Bonds and it also plans appropriate reporting after the issuance. Consequently, JCR evaluates that the management and operation system of the Company is appropriate.

Based on the JCR Green Finance Evaluation Methodology, JCR assigned "g1" for the evaluation of the "Greenness Evaluation (Use of Proceeds)" and "m1" for the evaluation of the "Management, Operating System and Transparency Evaluation." As a result, JCR assigned "Green 1" for overall "JCR Green Bond Evaluation." The evaluation results are described in detail in the next chapter. The Bonds are considered to meet the standards for the items required by the Green Bond Principles<sup>1</sup> and the Ministry of the Environment's Green Bond Guidelines<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> ICMA (International Capital Market Association) Green Bond Principles 2018 Edition https://www.icmagroup.org/green-social-and-sustainability-bonds/green-bond-principles-gbp/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Ministry of the Environment Green Bond Guidelines 2017 http://greenbondplatform.env.go.jp/pdf/greenbond guideline2017.pdf

# Chapter 2: Current Status of the Project on Each Evaluation Factor and JCR's Evaluations

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## Evaluation Phase 1: Greenness Evaluation

JCR assigns "g1", the highest grade, to "Evaluation Phase 1: Greenness Evaluation." Rationale: 100% use of proceeds for the bonds will be allocated to green projects based on the current situation described in detail below.

### (1) JCR's Key Consideration in This Factor

In this section, JCR first assesses whether the proceeds will be allocated to green projects that have explicit improvement effects on the environment. Next, JCR assesses whether an internal department/division which is exclusively in charge of environment issues or a third party agency prove it sufficiently and have taken necessarily workaround or mitigation measures, in case of possibility on the use of proceeds have negative impact on the environment. Finally, JCR confirms consistency with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

### (2) Current Status of Evaluation Targets and JCR's Evaluation

#### a. The environmental improvement effects of the projects

i. 100% of proceeds are to be used to refinance loans to entities that own and develop solar power generation facilities which have environmental improvement effect.

In its Green Bond Framework, the Company has established the following fund procurement methods and eligible projects.

Green Bond Framework of Mitsubishi Electric Credit Corporation (excerpt)

Investment targets: Loans and refinancing of the funds to entities that own and develop renewable energy facilities such as solar power generation facilities

The proceeds of the Bonds are used to refinance loans provided by the Company to entities that own and develop renewable energy facilities, such as solar power generation facilities, which are eligible projects in the Green Bond Framework. JCR evaluates that the eligible criteria defined by the Company are renewable energy power generation facilities, and thus have environmental improvement effect. The Company plans to issue the Bonds and immediately allocate the proceeds to refinance loans used for financing entities.

Name(*)	Location	Power Generation Output (kW)(**)	Annual Power Generation (Projected) (twenty-year average) (MWh)	Annual CO2 Reduction (t-CO2)(***)
Project A	Kagoshima	2,947	3,452	1,598
Project B	Kagawa	2,435	2,871	1,536
Project C	Kagawa	2,435	2,915	1,560
Tota	al	7,817	9,239	4,694

\* Names of projects are not disclosed due to the contracts.

\*\* Electricity volume based on output scale is presented.

\*\* Calculating methods for CO<sub>2</sub> reductions = Assumed annual power generation x adjusted emission factors (FY2018 (the latest figures))

Regarding the adjusted emission factors, figures are published by the Ministry of the Environment for each electric utility and for each fiscal year.



According to the materials submitted by the Company, the average annual power generation for the three renewable energy facilities is 9,239MWh, which is an average annual  $CO_2$  savings of 4,694t- $CO_2$ . JCR evaluates that the use of the proceeds has environmental benefits.

## ii. Use of proceeds falls under the category of "renewable energy" among the green projects defined in the Green Bond Principles and the Ministry of the Environment's Green Bond Guidelines.

#### b. Negative impact on the environment

At the Company, the Energy & Infrastructure Solutions Sales Department, which is responsible for investigating the content of projects when providing loans to entities that own solar power generation facilities, carries out necessary due diligence such as confirmation of natural disaster and compliance of the related laws through inquiries and interviews from the entities. JCR confirmed that no negative environmental impacts were anticipated for the three solar power generation facilities.

#### c. Consistency with SDGs goals and Targets

The projects are classified into "renewable energy." JCR evaluated the projects as contributing to the following SDGs goals and targets, while referring to ICMA's SDGs mappings.



#### Goal 3: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

Target 3.9. By 2030 substantially reduce the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil contamination



Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all

Target 7.2. By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix



Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

Target 8.2. Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high-value added and labour-intensive sectors



Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation

Target 9.1. Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and transborder infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all

Target 9.4. By 2030, upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, with all countries taking action in accordance with their respective capabilities



Goal 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

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Target 11.3. By 2030, enhance inclusive and sustainable urbanization and capacity for participatory, integrated and sustainable human settlement planning and management in all countries



#### Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

Target 12.4. By 2020, achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment



#### Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

Target 13.1. Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries

Evaluation Phase 2: Management, Operation and Transparency Evaluation

JCR assigns "m1", the highest rating on JCR Evaluation Phase 2: Management, Operation and Transparency Evaluation.

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Rationale: These Projects will be allocated the funding and implemented the businesses as planned through a firmly equipped management and operation system and high transparency as described below.

# 1. Appropriateness and Transparency Concerning Selection Standard and Processes of the Use of Proceeds

## (1) JCR's Key Consideration in This Factor

In this section, JCR confirms that the objectives to be achieved through the Bonds, the criteria for selecting green projects, the appropriateness of the process, and the series of processes are appropriately disclosed to investors.

## (2) Current Status of Evaluation Targets and JCR's Evaluation

## a. Goal

The Company has established its own Environmental Policy and publishes it on its website.

Mitsubishi Electric Credit Corporation Environmental Policy

Mitsubishi Electric Credit Corporation is keenly aware of the importance of environmental preservation. Therefore we acquire and maintain ISO14001 certification for its credit leasing business activities and office activities. Under the guidance of its administrative divisions, Mitsubishi Electric Credit Corporation promotes environmental preservation and environmental impact reduction in all aspects of its business activities at all divisions and branches.

- 1. Achieve management objectives and protect the environment through credit lease business activities and office activities.
- 2. Improve environmental performance by thoroughly disseminating environmental policies and targets to all employees, and continuously improving the environmental management system through management reviews and other means.
- 3. Enhance efficiency and reduce costs by expanding businesses contributing to improvement and energy conservation and reducing waste.
- 4. Promote waste reduction, resource recycling, and reuse in the process of leased properties.
- 5. Comply with relevant laws and regulations and other requirements.

The Company aims to contribute to "enhance efficiency and reduce costs by expanding businesses contributing to improvement and energy conservation and reducing waste" in its Environmental Policy through the use of proceeds. JCR evaluates that it is reasonable. JCR also evaluates it also contribute to realize following management philosophy and its action guidelines: i.e. "to contribute broadly to society by providing better and more valuable services to a diverse range of customers through initiatives focused on all the products and services of the Mitsubishi Electric Group" and "we aim to develop together with society by constantly being conscious of our corporate social responsibility and environmental contribution".

#### b. Selection criteria

Eligibility criteria of the Company' is "loans and refinancing of the funds to entities that own and develop renewable energy facilities such as solar power generation facilities."



JCR evaluates these eligibility criteria has environmental improvement effect, as mentioned in "Phase 1: Greenness Evaluation."

#### c. Processes

The Energy & Infrastructure Solutions Sales Department, which is in charge of collects and considers technical information related to loans, examines, evaluates and selects green eligible projects. The President shall approve the projects after deliberation by the General Manager of the Credit Department and the Vice President. Then, the final approval will be made by Mitsubishi UFJ Lease & Finance, the parent company of the Company.

The Company determined to issue the Bonds through resolution of the Board of Directors. Based on the above, JCR evaluates that the Company ensures to establish a system for evaluating and selecting projects in the Company itself and at the parent company, and that the management is appropriately involved in the selection process.

Transparency to investors is considered to be ensured as the above selection criteria and processes are disclosed in this evaluation report.



## 2. Appropriateness and Transparency of Management of the Proceeds

## (1) JCR's Key Consideration in This Factor

The management method of the proceeds is usually assumed to be diverse by the issuer. JCR evaluates whether the proceeds firmly allocated to the green project, the project have internal systems to easily track the allocation of the proceeds and the money funded by the bond will be allocated to the green project at once.

JCR also attaches importance to evaluating the management and operation of the unallocated funds, as well as to confirming that the funds procured from the bonds will be allocated to the green projects at an early stage.

### (2) Current Status of Evaluation Targets and JCR's Evaluation

- a The Bonds are scheduled to be fully allocated for the purpose of refinancing loans to businesses with solar power generation facilities as described in this report, and will not be allocated for any other purpose.
- b The Company plans to manage the proceeds through the existing management system dedicated to financial purposes. The balance is reported to the general manager of the Finance and Accounting Department once in a month. JCR confirmed through hearings with the Company that it will separate the management (recording) system of the Bonds related procurement from other balances. Regarding account management, JCR confirms that the confirmation of deposits and withdrawals of proceeds are properly carried out by the General Manager of the Finance and Accounting Department.
- c JCR confirmed that payments and withdrawals of the Bonds are going to be subject to both internal audits and external audits by an auditing firm.
- d The entire amount of the Bonds will be allocated to refinance the loans to the entities that own and develop the three solar power facilities immediately. Therefore, no unallocated funds are expected to be generated. However, in the event that unallocated funds are generated due to the sale of the target project by the owner of the facilities, the unallocated funds will be managed in cash or cash equivalents (including negotiable certificates of deposit) until the alternative green eligible project is selected and the funds are allocated.

As a result, JCR evaluates that the cash management of the Company is appropriate and transparent and appropriate.



## 3. Reporting

## (1) JCR's Key Consideration in This Factor

In this section, JCR evaluates whether the disclosure system for investors, etc. before and after the issuance of green bonds is planned in a detailed and effective manner at the time of the issuance of green bonds

## (2) Current Status of Evaluation Targets and JCR's Evaluation

#### a. Reporting on the proceeds allocation

The use of the proceeds of the Bonds is disclosed to the investors in this evaluation report. In addition, the Company will prepare a report on the Bonds and disclose it to the investors.

#### b. Reporting on environmental improvement effects

The Company plans to disclose the following items as reporting items for environmental improvement effects on the three solar power generation facilities subject to the use of the proceeds to the investors under the Green Bond Framework.

- List of projects
- Power generated by green eligible projects (theoretical value based on output standards)
- CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reduced by green eligible projects (theoretical values based on output standards)

JCR evaluates that the reporting is intended to appropriately disclose both the use of proceeds and the environmental improvement effects to the lender.



## 4. Environmental Initiatives of the Organization

## (1) JCR's Key Consideration in This Factor

In this section, JCR evaluates whether the issuer's management positions environmental issues as a high priority management issue, and whether the green bond policy, process and the criteria for selecting green projects are clearly defined through the establishment of a department specializing in the environmental field or through the assistance of external organizations.

## (2) Current Status of Evaluation Targets and JCR's Evaluation

As a member of the Mitsubishi Electric Group, the Company is working for achieving Mitsubishi Electric Group's Environmental Vision 2021 and Environmental Sustainable Vision 2050.

Mitsubishi Electric Group Environmental Vision 2021

Guideline

Making positive contributions to the earth and its people through technology and action initiative <Creating a Low-Carbon Society>

- Work to create and popularize innovative energy-saving products to achieve the goal of reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from product usage by 30% compared to fiscal 2000.
- Strive to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from product production by 30% (520,000 tons) across the entire Mitsubishi Electric Group as a prerequisite for sustainable growth.
- Reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from power generation and contribute to the creation of a low-carbon society by supplying the power industry with products and systems that do not emit CO<sub>2</sub>, including solar power and nuclear power systems.

<Creating a Recycling-Based Society>

- Develop sustainable resource cycles by reducing waste output, reusing resources and recycling resources to give them new life.
- Strive for zero waste output from production processes.
- <Respecting Biodiversity: Ensuring Harmony with Nature and Fostering Environmental Awareness>
- Strive to respect biodiversity in our business activities.
- Teach employees the importance of maintaining harmony with nature by providing opportunities for nature observation and direct participation in conservation activities to inculcate autonomous actions for the sake of the environment.
- Engage in nature conservation activities to restore damaged woodland environments.

Mitsubishi Electric Group Environmental Sustainability Vision 2050

(Environmental Declaration)

Protect the air, land and water with our hearts and technologies to sustain a better future for all

(Three Environmental Action Guidelines)

- 1. Apply diverse technologies in wide-ranging business areas to solve environmental issues
- 2. Challenge to develop business innovations for future generations
- 3. Publicize and share new values and lifestyles

(Key Activities)

- Climate Change Measures, Resource Circulation and Live in Harmony with Nature
- Long-term Activities, Innovation and Nurturing Human Resources
- Understanding Needs, Co-create and Disseminate New Values and Live in Harmony with the Region



The Company promotes the spread of power generation projects that do not emit  $CO_2$  such as solar power and energy-saving products in line with the Group's Environmental Vision and the Company's Environmental Policy mentioned above. The Company also promotes resource recycling by promoting the 3R (Reuse/Reduce/Recycle) of products for which leasing periods have expired.

Specifically, as of the end of January 2020, the Company gave loans to 747.5 MW renewable energy power generation facilities. The implementation of the loans to businesses with solar power generation facilities can be considered to be a part of the above initiatives. In its business activities, the Company cooperates with outside experts in providing financing for solar power generation projects, such as conducting surveys of power generation volume and risks in cooperation with outside technology evaluation companies.

JCR confirmed that the Company intends to expand the businesses regarding the leasing of environmentally friendly energy-saving products such as air-conditioning and refrigeration equipment, LEDs (Light Emitting Diodes), and solar panels in the future.

The Company has also received ISO14001 certification for its environmental management. In addition to establishing and operating an environmental management system (EMS) in compliance with the above standards, the Company is actively working to ensure the proper operation of the EMS and to foster environmental awareness among employees.

JCR recognizes that the Company considers environmental issues as a highly prioritized issue. JCR also confirms that departments that are not outside experts but have expertise are clearly involved in green procurement policies and processes and the selection of green projects. In the future, it is expected that by disclosing these environmental policies and various environmental initiatives, along with initiatives that contribute to the SDGs under consideration, on the Company's website, the Company will further increase the transparency of its environmental initiatives.



#### ■Evaluation result

Based on JCR Green Finance Evaluation Methodology, JCR assigns "g1" for the evaluation of the "Greenness Evaluation (Use of Proceeds)" and "m1" for the evaluation of the "Management, Operation and Transparency Evaluation." As a result, JCR assigns "Green 1" for overall "JCR Green Bond Evaluation." The Bonds are considered to meet the standards for the items required by the Green Bond Principles and the Ministry of the Environment's Green Bond Guidelines.

	[JCR Green Bond Evaluation Matrix]						
		Management, Operations and Transparency Evaluation					
		ml	m2	m3	m4	m5	
	gl	Green 1	Green 2	Green 3	Green 4	Green 5	
Greenness Evaluation	g2	Green 2	Green 2	Green 3	Green 4	Green 5	
	g3	Green 3	Green 3	Green 4	Green 5	Not qualified	
	g4	Green 4	Green 4	Green 5	Not qualified	Not qualified	
	g5	Green 5	Green 5	Not qualified	Not qualified	Not qualified	

#### ■Scope of Evaluation

Issuer: Mitsubishi Electric Credit Corporation (Security code:-)

#### [Assignment]

Subject	Issuance Amount	Issue Date	Redemption Date	Interest Rate	Evaluation
3rd Unsecured Corporate Bonds	JPY 2 billion	March 31, 2020	March 31, 2025	0.25%	JCR Green Bond Evaluation: Green1Greenness Evaluation: g1Management, Operations and Transparency Evaluation: m1

(Responsible analysts for this evaluation) Rieko Kikuchi and Kosuke Kajiwara

#### Important explanation of the Green Bond Evaluation

1. Assumptions, Significance, and Limitations of JCR Green Bond Evaluation

JCR Green Bond Evaluation, which is assigned and provided by Japan Credit Rating Agency (JCR), is a comprehensive expression of JCR's current opinion on the extent to which the proceeds of green bonds, which are subject to evaluation, are allocated to green projects defined by JCR and the extent to which the management, operation, and transparency of the use of green bonds are ensured. This does not perfectly disclose all the efforts taken by the issuer/borrower to ensure the use of proceeds, administration, management of the proceeds and the transparency.

JCR Green Bond Evaluation is to evaluate the plan or status of the proceeds to green projects at the time of issuing green bonds or planning to issue, and does not guarantee the future actual allocation of the proceeds. JCR does not guarantee the positive environmental effects of green bonds nor is liable for their expected impacts. JCR confirms that the environmental impacts, which will be realized by the allocated proceeds, are calculated quantitatively and qualitatively by the issuer or by a third party requested by the issuer, but in principle JCR does not calculate them by itself.

- 2. Methodologies used in the conduct of this evaluation The methodology used in this evaluation are listed on JCR website (Sustainable Finance & ESG in https://www.jcr.co.jp/en)) as JCR Green Finance Evaluation Methodology.
- 3. Relationship with Acts Related to Credit Rating Business JCR Green Bond Evaluation is determined and provided by JCR as a related business, which is different from the activities related to the credit rating business.
- 4. Relationship with Credit Ratings

The Evaluation differs from the Credit Rating and does not promise to provide or make available for inspection a predetermined Credit Rating.

5. Third-party character of JCR

There is no conflict of interest related to capital or human resources relationships between the subject of this evaluation and JCR.

#### Disclaimers

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#### ∎Glossary

JCR Green Bond Evaluation: JCR Green Bond Evaluation evaluates the extent to which the funds procured from the Green bond are allocated to the Green Project as defined by JCR, and the extent to which the management, operation, and transparency of the Green Bond are ensured. Evaluations are graded on a scale of 5, beginning with the top, using the Green1, Green2, Green3, Green4, and Green5 symbols.

#### Status of registration as an external reviewer of green finance

Ministry of the Environment's external green bond reviewer registration

- · ICMA (registered as an observer with the International Capital Markets Association)
- · Members of the Working Group on UNEP FI Positive Impact Finance Principles
- CBI Approved Verifier
- ■Status of registration as a credit rating agency. etc.
  - Credit Rating Agency: the Commissioner of the Financial Services Agency (Rating) No.1
  - · EU Certified Credit Rating Agency
  - NRSRO: JCR has registered with the following four of the five credit rating classes of the Securities and Exchange Commission's NRSRO(Nationally Recognized Statistical Rating Organization. (1)Financial institutions, broker dealers, (2) insurance companies, (3) general business corporations, and (4) government and local governments. If the disclosure is subject to Section 17g-7(a) of the Securities and Exchange Commission Rule, such disclosure is attached to the news releases posted on the JCR website (https://www.jcr.co.jp/en/).

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