

Accelerated Decommissioning, A Key Ingredient to Nuclear Sustainability

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“No matter how complex global problems may seem, it is we ourselves who have given rise to them. They cannot be beyond our power to resolve.”

– Daisaku Ikeda

Industry Accomplishments and Advances

- Dry fuel storage
 - Segmentation of reactor vessels and internals
 - Packaging, shipping, and disposal of wastes and recycling of reusable materials
 - Project planning and execution
 - Gradual acceptance by State and local communities
 - Responsible management of trust funds
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- **Results: overall accelerated decommissioning project timelines are expected to achieve a nominal 8-year norm**

Notable Achievements



Challenges Remaining

- On the “front end,” establishing a durable regulatory framework for transitioning from operations through decommissioning
- In the “middle,” achieving a higher degree of industry collaboration to minimize risks and continually improve performance
- On the “back end,” creating a stable, practical, and risk-informed license termination process

Meeting the Challenges?

- Durable regulatory framework
 - NRC SRM-SECY-18-0055, Proposed Rule—Decommissioning Transition
- Achieve higher degree of industry collaboration
 - Broadened access to EPRI Decommissioning Hub
 - Industry conferences, working groups, and issue-specific forums
 - Creation of NEI Decommissioning Executive Task Force
- Stable, practical, and risk-informed license termination process
 - Develop solutions to technical issues and methodologies for unrestricted release
 - Align industry and the NRC to a common standard and process for achieving safety goals in license termination (stay tuned for NEI 22-01)

Humboldt Bay Today



Zion Today



LaCrosse Today



NEI 22-01, “License Termination Process”



- Consolidated guidance for preparing a commercial nuclear site for unrestricted release:
 - Conducting license termination preplanning (before cessation of operations)
 - Characterizing the site
 - Developing a license termination plan (LTP)
 - Developing a final status survey (FSS) plan
 - Demonstrating compliance with the LTP
 - Reporting FSS results
 - Using advanced technologies
 - Establishing a typical timeline and protocol for NRC, State, and local interfaces

- Draft June 2022; submit to the NRC for endorsement by the end of 2022

Conclusion:

The future of accelerated DECON, while promising, is still a work in progress.
