

IAEA Perspectives on Policies and Strategy for Decommissioning

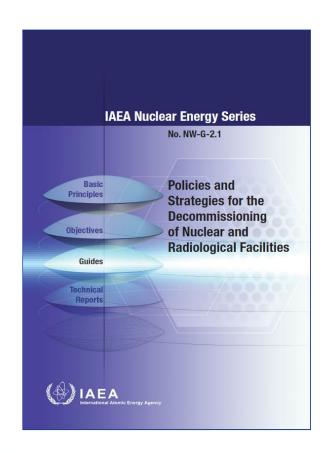
Regional Workshop for Central Governments and Regulatory Bodies of Asia, for the Development of National Strategies and Regulatory Requirements for Decommissioning

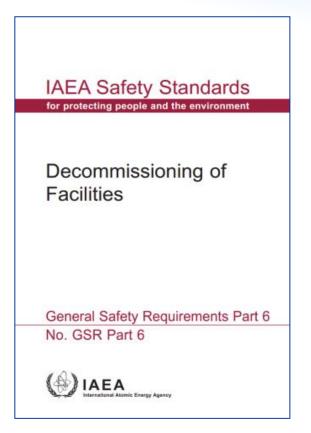
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IAEA guidelines on P&S for decommissioning







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Policy and Strategy for decommissioning



- Nuclear Energy Basic Principles and the Fundamental Safety Principles are relevant also to decommissioning of nuclear facilities;
- In particular, the decommissioning of a nuclear facility should:
 - Provide protection of people and the environment both now and in the future,
 - Include a long term commitment to ensuring that sites and waste from them are properly managed,
 - Provide efficiency in the use of resources,
 - Provide open and transparent interactions with stakeholders,
 - The public should be able to participate in decision making, where relevant (the Aarhus Convention),
 - The needs of the present must be met without compromising those of future generations (sustainable development) and local conditions.

Policy and Strategy for decommissioning



- Policy is a set of established goals or requirements for the safe, effective and efficient decommissioning of nuclear facilities. The national policy usually includes a specification of national roles and responsibilities, and is mainly established by the national government.
- Strategy is the means for achieving the goals and requirements set out in the national policy for the decommissioning of nuclear facilities. There might be developed a national-wide strategy and/or decommissioning strategy for an individual facility(ies).
- Addressed facilities are nuclear power plants, research reactors, nuclear fuel cycle facilities, and other (small) medical, industrial and research facilities.

Relation between decommissioning policy and decommissioning strategy



- The line separating policy from strategy might be in some cases not clearly defined and specific issue(s) should be taken up on policy or strategy level.
- For example, some policy makers might put into policy only the requirement for the decommissioning of nuclear facilities, and then rely on strategy makers to decide on the method for achieving this.
- Other policy makers might include a requirement for a particular decommissioning approach directly in the national policy.
- Some countries may not distinguish between the two concepts and instead have a national plan that is in fact a combined policy and strategy.

Typical elements of a decommissioning policy



- Allocation of responsibilities;
- Provision of resources (human, technical, financial);
- Decommissioning approaches / strategies;
- Safety and security objectives;
- Radioactive waste management;
- Conventional and radioactive waste minimization;
- End points for decommissioning;
- Public information and participation.

Factors and constraints affecting the selection of a decommissioning strategy



- Meeting policy requirements;
- Availability of resources (human, technical, financial);
- Costs based on the regularly updated decommissioning costing;
- Spent fuel and radioactive waste management;
- Safety and security measures;
- Regulatory requirements;
- Considerations on multiple facilities at the site;
- Knowledge management;
- Social and economic impacts;
- Stakeholder considerations;
- Facility related strategy issues.

Strategy selection



- The selection of the preferred decommissioning strategy can be made by evaluating the influencing factors on national level or in terms of their attributes for a specific facility or site.
- The process typically starts by collecting and assessing available data and by considering all related aspects.
- A set of possible decommissioning options is then formulated together with a preliminary decommissioning plan(s) for implementing each option.
- An example of a formal decision aiding technique for the strategy selection can be a multi-attribute utility analysis as an effective and efficient way of showing the impact of each strategy option based on the influencing factors.





Thank you for your attention

