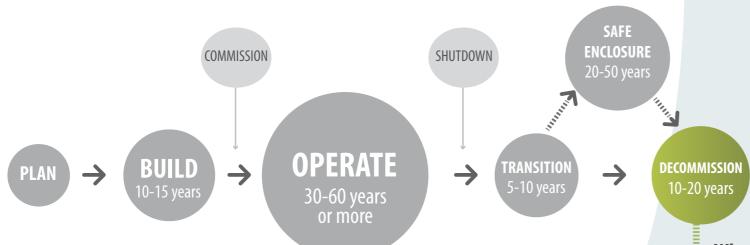
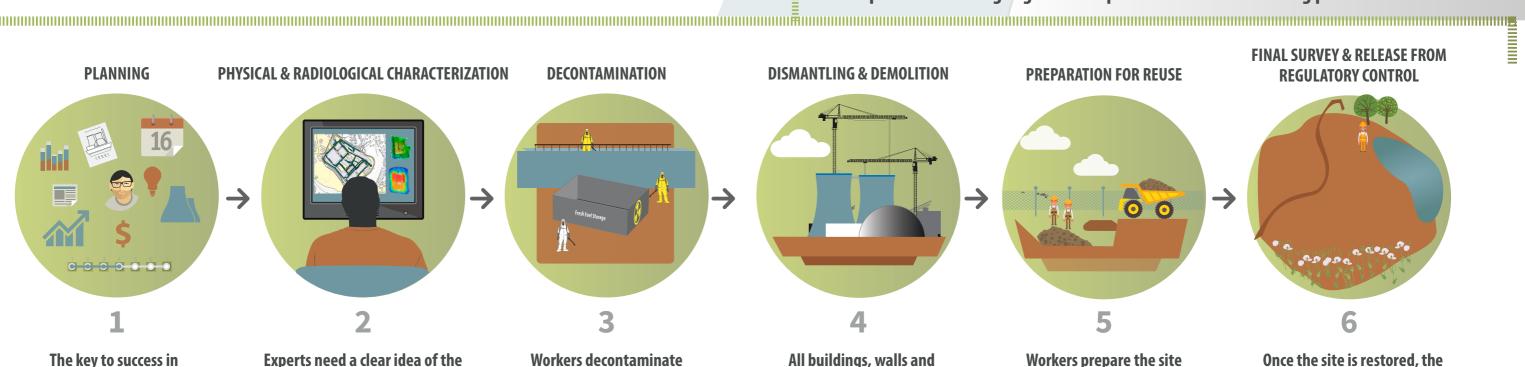
FROM PLANNING TO DECOMMISSIONING: LIFE OF A NUCLEAR POWER PLANT



When a facility no longer serves a useful social or economic purpose, it needs to be dismantled and the site made available for other uses. The six phases below highlight the steps in the decommissioning process.



decommissioning is to carefully plan and consider all aspects of the project, including funding and licensing.

Experts need a clear idea of the characteristics of the facility and the levels of radiation that they expect to encounter.

Workers decontaminate materials, which significantly reduces the amount of radioactive waste.

All buildings, walls and components are broken down into pieces, organized and recycled.
Radioactive waste is treated apart, and sent for storage or disposal.

Workers prepare the site for eventual reuse.

Once the site is restored, the regulator verifies and confirms that there is no significant contamination; the site can now be reused.