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## 3.0 Facilities Closure

Facility closure can occur on either a temporary or permanent basis. Both bases of closure are addressed below. The MSP would be designed for an operating life of 30 years. Depending on maintenance factors, at an appropriate point beyond the useful operating life, the project would cease operation and close down. At that time, it would be necessary to ensure that the closure occurs in such a way that public health and safety and the environment are protected from adverse impacts.

Although the setting for this project does not appear to present any special or unusual closure problems, it is impossible to foresee what the situation would be in 40 years or more when the project ceases operation. Therefore, provisions would be made which provide the flexibility to deal with the specific situation and project setting at the time of closure. Facility closure would be consistent with laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards in effect at the time of closure.

Temporary closure is a cessation of facility operations for a period of time greater than would be required for routine maintenance, overhaul, or replacement of major plant equipment. Temporary closure may be initiated by damage to the facility resulting from events such as earthquakes, fires, other natural occurrences, or due to short-term economic considerations. Temporary closure is described in section 3.1 below.

Permanent closure is a cessation of facility operations with no intent to restart. Permanent closure may result from a combination of facility age, economic considerations, from damage considered beyond repair or other such reasons. Permanent closure is described in section 3.2 below.

### 3.1 Temporary Closure

During the case of a temporary closure, security for the Project facilities would be maintained on a round-the-clock basis and the CEC and other responsible agencies would be notified. Depending on whether or not hazardous materials were released, a specific course of action would be followed, as outlined below.

A Risk Management and Mitigation Plan (RMMP) would be implemented for the temporary halting of facility operations if there is no actual or threatened release of hazardous materials. Its purpose is to ensure compliance with all applicable laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards (LORS) and appropriate protection of public health, safety, and the environment. This RMMP would be developed prior to the beginning of the operations. The contingency plan may include draining and proper disposal of chemicals from storage tanks and other facility equipment, the safe shutdown of all plant equipment, and various other measures to protect equipment, onsite workers, the public, and the environment. Specific measures depend on the expected duration and nature of the temporary closure.

Procedures would be implemented as provided in a Hazardous Materials Business Plan that would be developed for the Project (see Section 5.6, Hazardous Materials Handling) in the case that the temporary closure does involve an actual or threatened release of hazardous

materials to the environment. Procedures would include (but not be limited to), the following:

- Measures to control and ultimately prevent the continued release of hazardous materials;
- Emergency response procedures to address the unique operating environment consistent with the nature of the temporary closure;
- Training requirements for Project personnel in hazardous material release response and control; and
- Requirements for notifying the appropriate agencies and the public.

Once the hazardous material release has been resolved, temporary closure would proceed, corrective actions would be identified, and the Risk Management and Mitigation Plan would be followed.

## 3.2 Permanent Closure

Depending upon circumstances, the Project's facility could operate for a longer or shorter period of time than that planned. For example, if the MSP facility remains economically viable, it could operate for more than 40 years, which would defer environmental impacts associated with closure and with the development of replacement power generating facilities. However, if the facility were to no longer be economically viable before useful life of equipment has expired, it could be closed permanently sooner.

A decommissioning plan specifying the appropriate closure procedures would be developed and implemented, regardless of when permanent closure occurs. Security for the Project facilities would be maintained on a round-the-clock basis during permanent closure activities until such time the Project's facilities are determined safe without security. The CEC and other responsible agencies would be notified of the decommissioning schedule and plans prior to commencing the permanent closure.

The decommissioning plan would include procedures designed to ensure public health and safety, environmental protection, and compliance with applicable LORS. The closure measures may range from extensive "mothballing" to the complete removal of Project equipment and other structures, depending on conditions at the time of closure.

In general, the decommissioning plan for the Project would address the following:

- Proposed decommissioning measures for the power plant and all associated facilities constructed as part of the Project;
- Activities necessary for site restoration, if removal of all equipment and appurtenances is needed;
- Provisions for recycling facility components, collection and disposal of hazardous wastes, and resale of unused chemicals back to suppliers or other parties;
- Decommissioning alternatives other than full restoration of the site;
- Costs associated with the proposed decommissioning activities and the source of funds to implement these activities; and
- Conformance with applicable LORS and with local/regional plans.

Details for decommissioning would be developed and provided to the CEC prior to permanent closure but with adequate time for review of the plan because, in the present, it is not possible to predict the setting and conditions that would exist at the time decommissioning decisions must be made.