

4.0 PREMATURE OR UNEXPECTED CESSATION OF OPERATIONS

4.1 INTRODUCTION

Premature cessation of operations is not expected. However, this chapter addresses how premature or unexpected facility closure would be accomplished, in accordance with CCR Title 20 Chapter 5 Appendix B Section (e)(1) and Commission AFC Data Adequacy Worksheets. Premature or unexpected facility closure might be temporary or permanent. Temporary closure would be for a period greater than the time required for normal maintenance. Causes for temporary closure could be a disruption in the supply of natural gas, or damage to the plant from earthquake, fire, storm or other natural act. Permanent closure would consist of a cessation of operations with no intent to restart operations. Temporary and permanent closure are discussed in the following sections.

4.2 UNEXPECTED TEMPORARY CESSATION OF OPERATIONS

For a temporary closure, where there is no release of hazardous materials, security of the facility will be deployed on a 24-hour basis, and the Commission will be notified. Depending on the length of shutdown, a contingency plan for the temporary cessation of operations may be implemented. The contingency plan will be conducted to assure conformance with all applicable LORS and protection of public health and safety and the environment. The plan, depending on the expected duration of the shutdown, may include the draining of chemicals from storage tanks and other equipment, and the safe shutdown of equipment. Wastes would be disposed of according to applicable LORS as discussed in Section 6.14 - Waste Management.

If the temporary closure includes damage to the facility, and if there is a release or threatened release of hazardous materials into the environment, measures will be taken to control the threat of release or to contain an actual release to control the threat to human health and the environment. Potential measures include notification of applicable authorities and the public, emergency response if needed, and removing hazardous materials or hazardous material spills to prevent or control releases. Once the actual release is contained and cleaned up or the threatened release is controlled, temporary closure will proceed as previously described for a closure where there is no release of hazardous materials.

4.3 PLANNED PERMANENT OR PREMATURE CESSATION OF OPERATIONS

The anticipated life of the combined-cycle units to be installed as part of the Project is at least 30 years. Continued operation beyond 30 years may also be viable, especially with good

maintenance practices and selective replacement of equipment components. Future conditions that would factor into a premature decommissioning decision cannot be speculated. Decommissioning may range from "mothballing" to removal of equipment and appurtenant facilities, depending on conditions at the time. Details of closure will be provided to the Commission if premature decommissioning becomes foreseeable.

To assure that decommissioning is completed in a manner that protects public health and safety and is environmentally acceptable, a decommissioning plan will be submitted to the Commission for approval prior to commencement of decommissioning. The plan will include the following:

- Discussion of the proposed decommissioning activities for the facility and appurtenant equipment.
- Discussion of applicable LORS, local/regional plans, and conformance of the proposed decommissioning activities to the applicable LORS and local/regional plans.
- Discussion of the activities necessary to restore the Site if the plan requires removal of the facility and appurtenant equipment.
- A discussion of decommissioning alternatives, other than complete restoration.
- Associated costs of the proposed decommissioning and the source of funds to pay for the decommissioning.

In general, decommissioning activities for the facility will be designed to optimize the recycling of facility components. Unused chemicals will be returned to the suppliers or sold to other users. Equipment containing chemicals will be drained and shut down in a manner to assure public health and safety and protect the environment. Nonhazardous wastes will be collected and disposed of in licensed landfills or recycled at licensed waste collection facilities. Hazardous wastes will be disposed of according to applicable LORS. The Site will be secured 24 hours per day during the decommissioning activities.

4.4 UNEXPECTED PERMANENT CESSATION OF OPERATIONS

Unexpected plant closure could occur if, for example, an earthquake, fire, storm or other natural act caused damage to the plant beyond repair. In the event of unexpected closure, the closure procedure will follow the same plan described under Section 4.3 for planned permanent or premature cessation of operations.