

## **The PRR-1 Situation**

### ***Decommissioning Process***

- Decommissioning Strategy
  - Of the three basic decommissioning strategies:
    - Time has already passed beyond the immediate dismantling strategy.
    - The entombment strategy is not acceptable because the PNRI does not own the site, and the owner (the University of the Philippines) considers the land a valuable asset that will be eventually returned.
    - The deferred dismantling strategy is selected by default. Nevertheless, a choice must still be made on the desired final state of the site.

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- The final state has several possibilities, among which are:
  - All structures are torn down and the site is restored to a "green field".
  - The shell of the reactor building is preserved but the interior is converted to some non-nuclear productive use.
- The PNRI will have to initiate and drive the process to choose the final state, but the decision cannot be made without the participation of the site owner and other stakeholders.

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- Transition Phase:
  - To be discussed in a separate presentation.
- Surveillance and Maintenance Phase
  - The PRR-1 went into this phase informally when funding for reactor repair was exhausted around the year 1999.
  - Under the new internal regulatory system of the PNRI, the condition of the PRR-1 during shutdown has to be formally defined and authorized (or licensed). The reactor is undergoing the authorization process, which is aimed to be completed by the end of 2006.

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- Preparation Phase
  - The PRR-1 entered the Preparation Phase, without actually leaving the Surveillance and Maintenance Phase, when a firm decision to decommission was made in 2005.
  - Activities in the PRR-1 that would have been done during Facility Transition in an ideal decommissioning process will be done during the Preparation Phase instead. These activities include doing the characterization survey and preparing a decommissioning plan.

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- The PRR-1 decommissioning project team will be formally organized at an early stage of the Preparation Phase.
- The decommissioning plan will be reviewed and approved under the PNRI's internal regulatory program during the Preparation Phase.
- And very important: Funding to go into the Decontamination and Dismantling Phase will be obtained during the Preparation Phase.

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- Decontamination and Dismantling Phase
  - Under the PNRI's internal regulatory system, the PRR-1 will have to obtain a new authorization to enter the Decontamination and Dismantling Phase. A key requirement of the new authorization will be the submission of a decommissioning plan and its approval by the NRLSD.
  - There will be more to say about decontamination and dismantling in the PRR-1 after the other presentations.

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- Final Phase
  - After the completion of the Decontamination and Dismantling Phase, the PRR-1 will apply for a cancellation of its authorization as a nuclear facility under the PNRI's internal regulatory system, and its removal from the regulatory process.
  - It is expected that the application will be supported by final reports on decontamination and dismantling and a final radiological characterization survey.