

Decommissioning: Stay Alert to Hazards

Decommissioning involves dynamic, changing risks. Everyone must stay alert to key behaviours that cause incidents:

Contractor Overreliance

Contractors often lead the work but may be unfamiliar with site hazards, history, or rules.



Poor Change Management

Temporary tasks and tools not risk-assessed or communicated properly can trigger accidents.

Lack of Competence

Decommissioning needs specialised skills (e.g., cutting, heavy lifts, breaking containment).
Gaps increase risk.



Poor Communication

Multiple teams and shifting interfaces heighten the chance of miscommunication and error.

Complacency

With shutdown operations, risk awareness drops, and rule-bending becomes “normal.”



Routine Violations

Workers may bypass procedures to save time, often leading to incidents.

Fatigue & Low Morale

Overtime, temporary crews, and night work reduce alertness and increase mistakes.



Weak Supervision

Poor oversight and unclear responsibilities turn hidden risks into active failures.

Poor Learning

Failing to apply lessons from past incidents leads to repeat errors and exposure.



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