

Comparison: Mothballing Vs Decommissioning & Maintain in Operation

	Mothballing	Decommissioning	Keep in Operation
Objective	Preserve assets in a non-operational state for potential future use.	Safely retire and dismantle assets permanently.	Continuous availability of the equipment.
Cost Profile	Lower upfront cost ; ongoing preservation and monitoring required.	High upfront cost ; minimal long-term expenses after completion.	High ongoing operational and maintenance costs .
Flexibility	Option to restart when needed.	No restart option once completed.	Immediate availability, no downtime.
Asset Value	Retains operational/redeployment potential.	Written off, possible scrap/salvage value only.	Retains operational potential.
Risk Exposure	Risk of deterioration and costly recommissioning.	Eliminates operational risks; site risks remain until remediation.	Exposure to weather and associate corrosion damage & safety risks.
Regulatory/Environmental	Must maintain compliance during storage (e.g., leaks, corrosion).	Full compliance achieved via dismantling and remediation.	Ongoing regulatory obligations for operations.
Timeframe	Short- medium- Long term option (years to a decade).	Long-term, permanent solution.	Continuous operation until asset end-of-life.
Strategic Use	Best during needs uncertainty or when future demand may justify restart.	Best when asset has no technical or economic future.	Best when demand, needs, and condition justify continued use.