A SCP outlines proposed measures for the demolition and decommissioning of a particular site. Its aim is to avoid the risk of pollution and to remediate the land when closure is carried out. SCPs are required by the regulator, the Environment Agency (EA), for all sites operating under the Environmental Permitting Regulations in England and Wales. The Scottish Environmental Agency (SEPA) requires a similar site decommissioning plan for closures in Scotland.

The main objectives of a SCP are to prevent or, where that isn’t practicable, minimise the pollution risk on closure and decommissioning of site operations. SCPs are required for all permitted sites, including those where closure is not anticipated in the medium to long term.

The plan must cover critical areas such as:

- Operations during the lifetime of the Environmental / PPC permit (detailing permitted activities, operational records and the status of their respective improvement programmes)
- Future design and build within the installation (detailing standards and procedures for minimising pollution)
- Closure planning (a programme of decommissioning, decontamination and demolition designed to ensure that potential post-closure impacts are well managed)

What we offer

ABB use their full understanding of EA / SEPA requirements for protection of land under the PPC regime, and interpretation of regulator guidance to develop successful, cost effective site closure plans.

We compile each SCP in accordance with the appropriate EA / SEPA sector guidance note. The scope of the plan is tailored to the anticipated lifespan of the site. For sites with lives that are medium to long lives, the SCP describes a generic framework of controls which ensures good management of post-closure impacts.
Where demolition activities are planned in the short term, additional specific details are provided in the SCP, for example:

- Details of pre-closure surveys and investigations such as SPMP (Site Protection and Monitoring Programme) investigations and monitoring, asbestos and building fabric surveys and a description of how the survey’s findings will affect closure planning
- Detailed procedures for decommissioning, decontamination and hand-over requirements for the demolition contractor
- Organisation of, and detailed standards and procedures for, demolition, dismantling and site clearance operations
- A description of specific requirements, such as removal of ground slabs, underground services, use of demolition rubble, treatment of underground structures, control of spillages, surface water, etc.
- Requirements for the collection of records for the demolition project file

Benefits
- Avoidance of pollution incidents during site closure
- Ensures that safe and suitable controls are available for use in site closure
- Ensures that adequate records are kept during this process to facilitate permit surrender
- Limitation for costly remediation works

Why ABB?
We have extensive experience and expertise in the preparation and successful reporting of SCPs and site decommissioning plans for a variety of sites and industry sectors.

We take a pragmatic approach to make sure that SCP details are cost-effective and that they provide enough information to meet regulator requirements.

We have knowledge and experience of demolition and decommissioning operations, site infrastructure and contaminated land issues.

We have extensive knowledge of the oil and gas, chemical, food & drink and pharmaceutical industries.