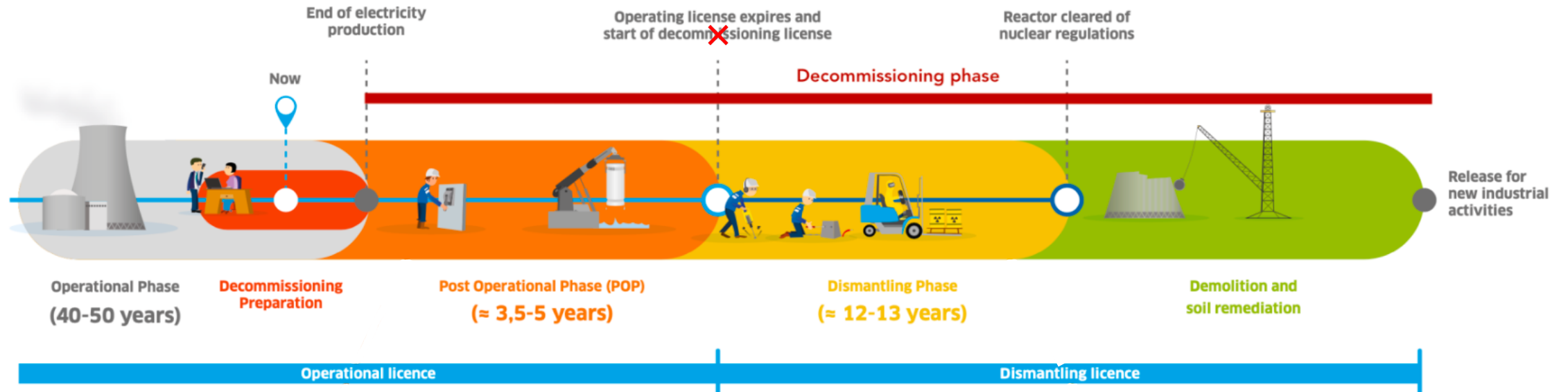


EASST/4S Amsterdam – 17 July 2024

A Matter of Times

Temporal tensions in nuclear decommissioning

Simple timeline of the decommissioning phase



The Belgian Reactor 3



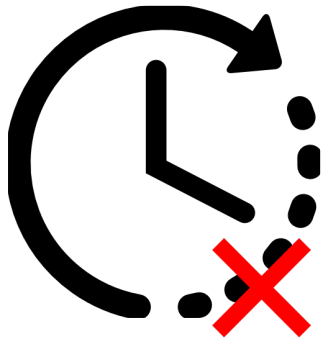
BR3 = Prototype PWR ($\approx 10\text{MWe}$)

Launch: 1962

Shutdown: 1987

sck cen
Exploring a better tomorrow

How do temporal dynamics order nuclear decommissioning?



Temporal inconsistencies (Felt, 2016)

Overlap between multiple coexisting forms of time = tensions



Timeprints (Adam & Groves, 2011)

Past & current actions extend through time

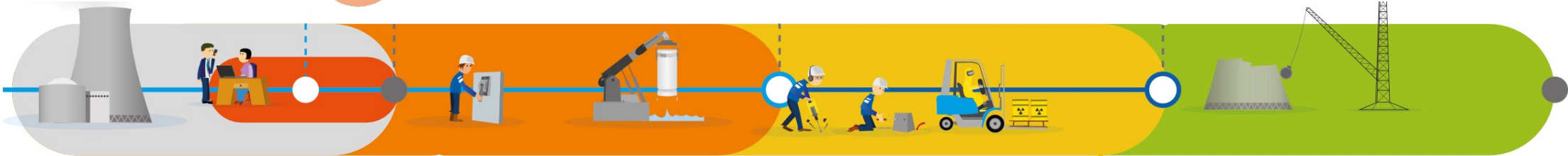
Lock-ins: future-making involves future-taking



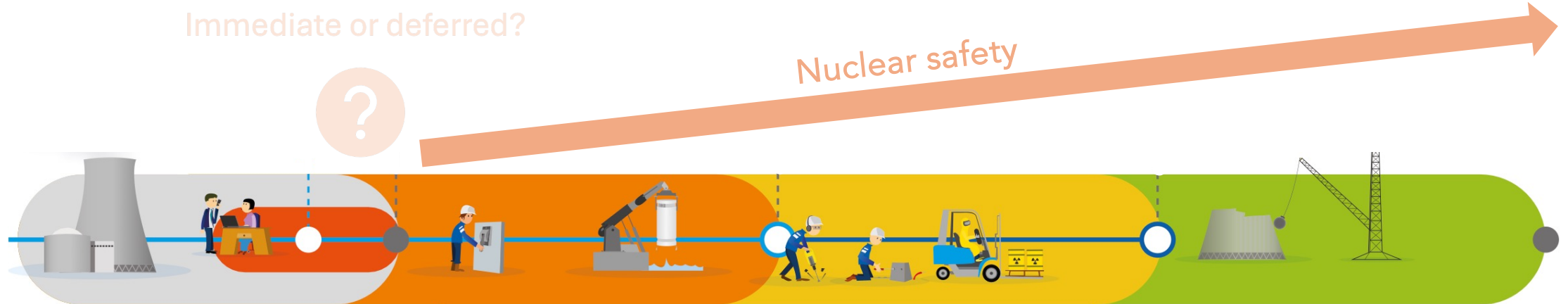
**Losing radioactivity
VS
Keeping knowledge & workforce**

Loosing radioactivity VS keeping knowledge & workforce

Immediate or deferred?



Loosing radioactivity VS keeping knowledge & workforce



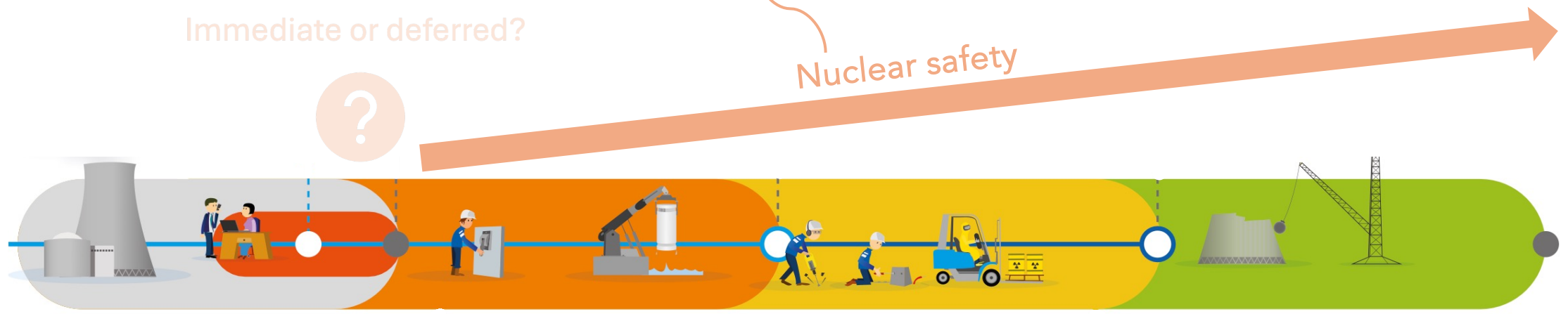
Loosing radioactivity VS keeping knowledge & workforce

"Risk is reduced overall but may increase locally" (Manager BR3 dismantling, SCK CEN)

Immediate or deferred?



Nuclear safety



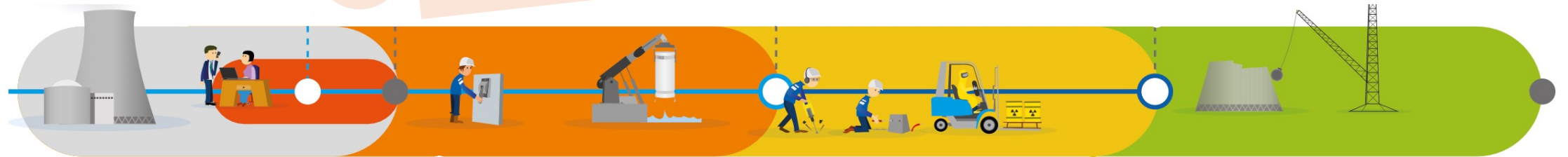
Loosing radioactivity VS keeping knowledge & workforce

"Risk is reduced overall but may increase locally" (Manager BR3 dismantling, SCK CEN)

Immediate or deferred?



Nuclear safety



Uniqueness: need to "ensure that people who know about these facilities don't run away too quickly (...) because they are the ones who know where the problems might be" (Manager BR3 decommissioning, FANC)

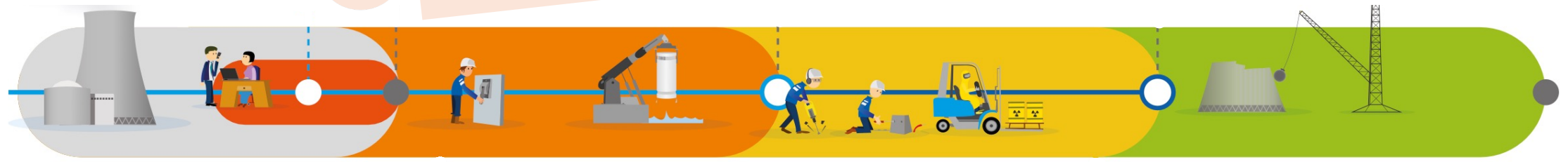
Loosing radioactivity VS keeping knowledge & workforce

"Risk is reduced overall but may increase locally" (Manager BR3 dismantling, SCK CEN)

Immediate or deferred?



Nuclear safety



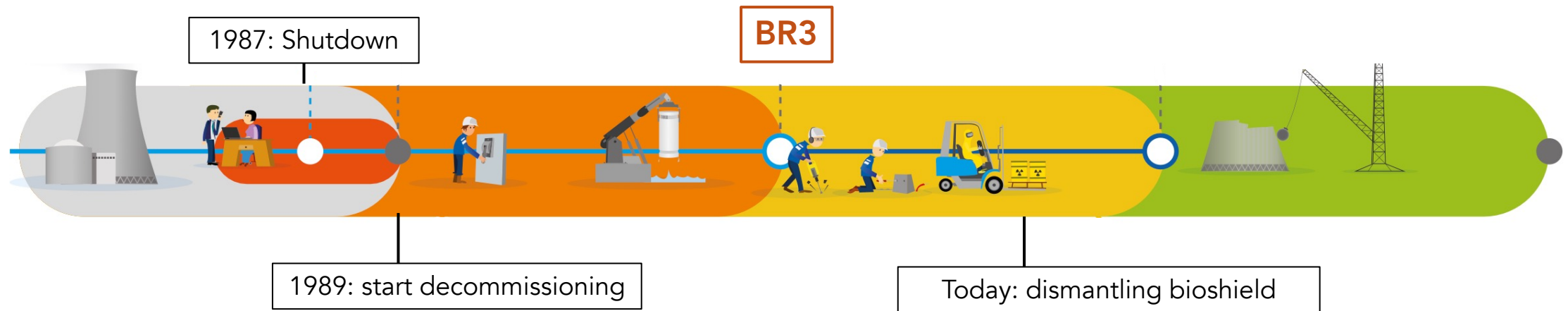
Uniqueness: need to "ensure that people who know about these facilities don't run away too quickly (...) because they are the ones who know where the problems might be" (Manager BR3 decommissioning, FANC)

Not designed to be dismantled

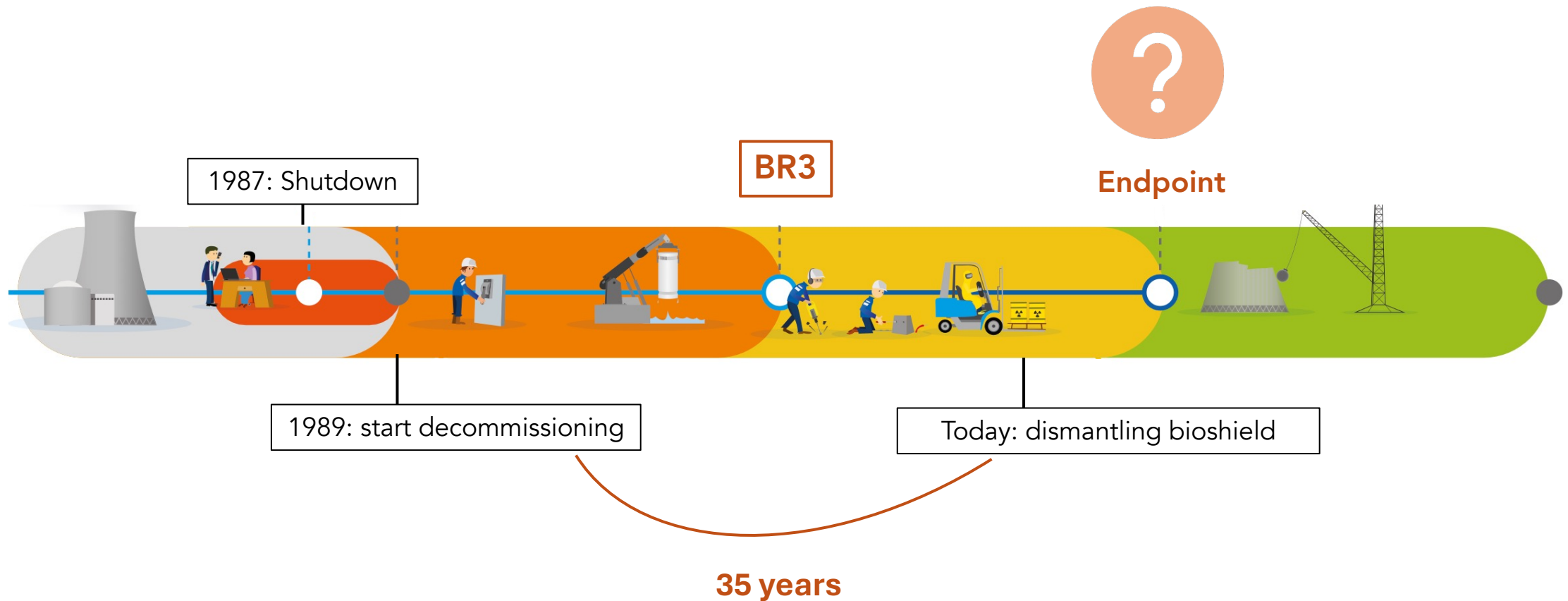


Dodging gymnastics: the art of suspending time

BR3: unanticipated delay

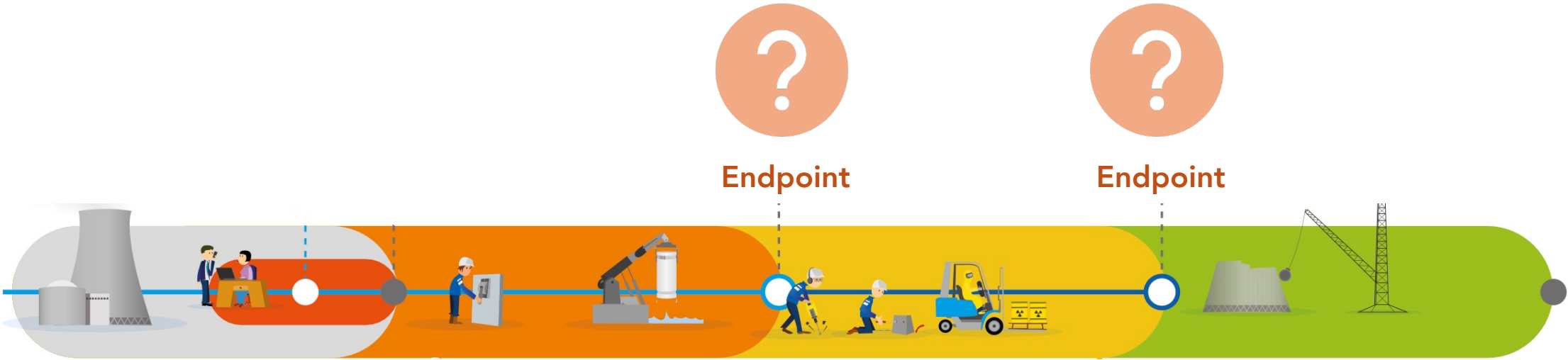


BR3: unanticipated delay

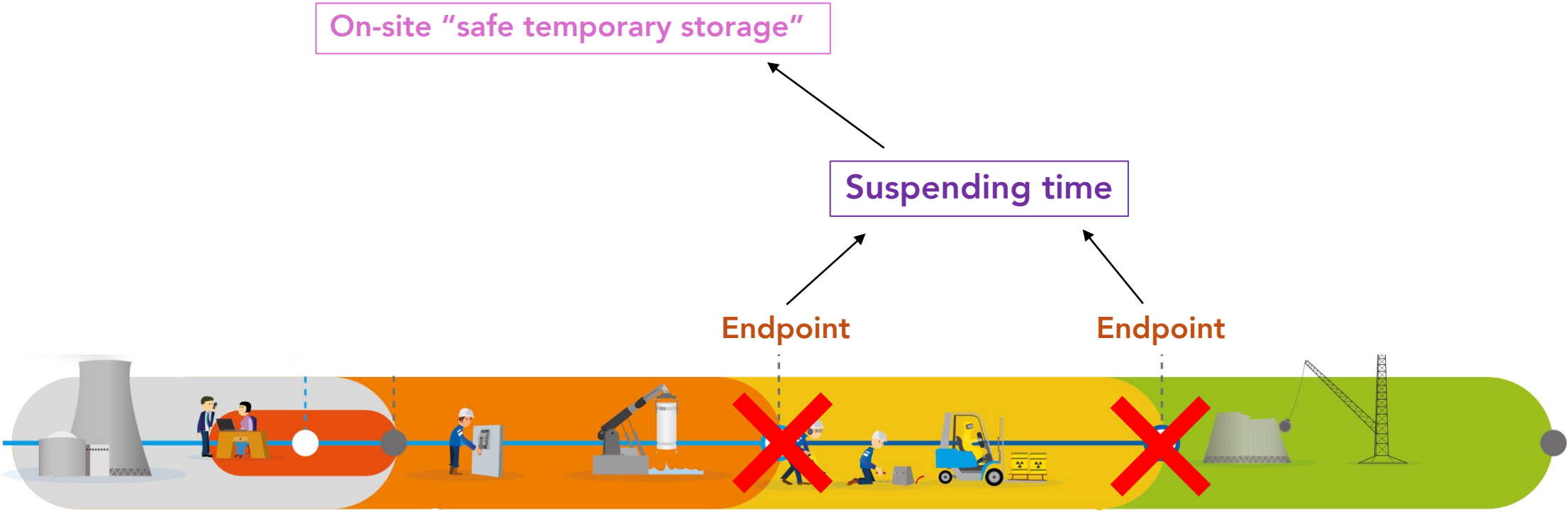


A risk of congestion

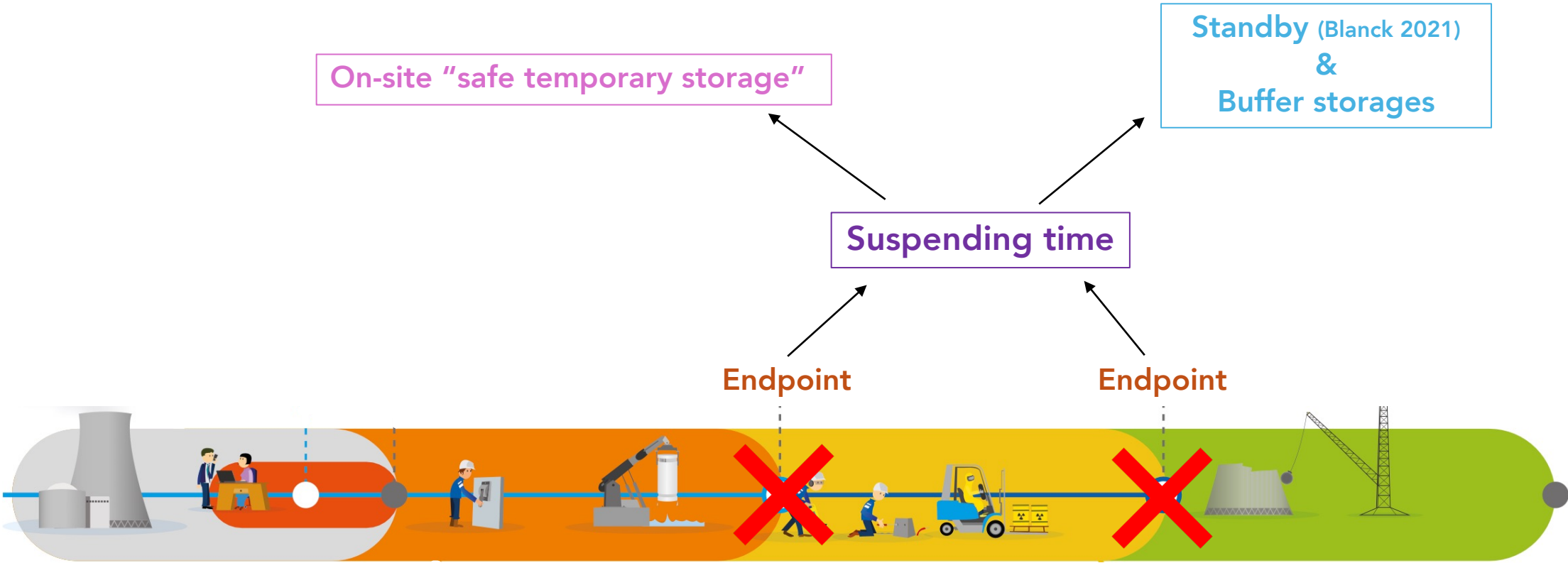
“The end of the cycle influences all the cycle” (R&D, ONDRAF)

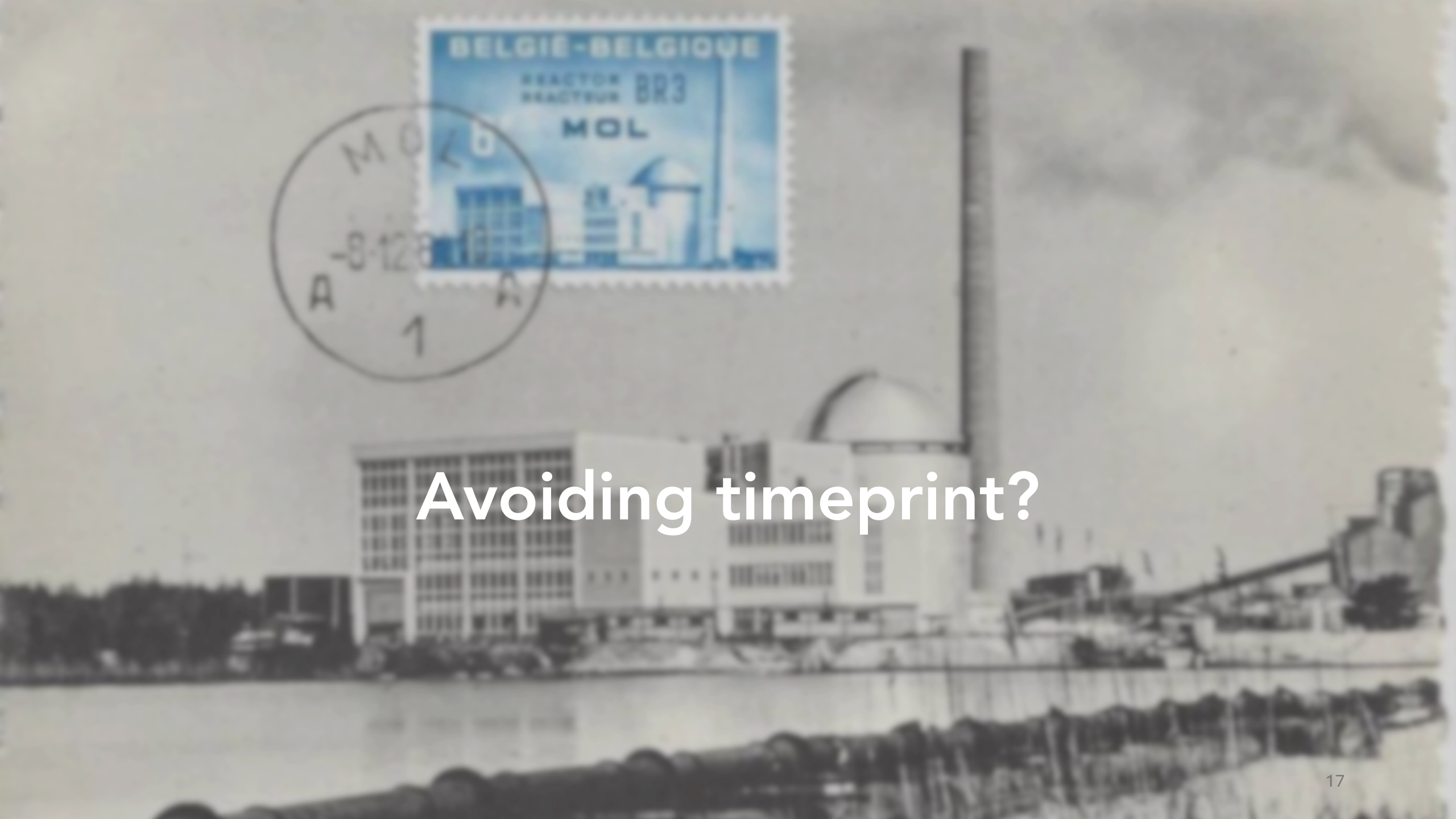


A risk of congestion



A risk of congestion





Avoiding timeprint?

References

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