

End-of-life policy (from [June 17, 2019](#) calls)

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This should contain:

1. under what circumstances the resource would close
2. what consequences would result from closure
3. what happens to the metadata and/or the software artifacts contained in the resource
4. if long-term preservation is expected, where metadata and/or software artifacts would be migrated for preservation
5. how the migration would be funded

Why are we recommending this?

It's a matter of trust for the community your registry / repository serves. It takes time for authors to upload their code and other digital artifacts and describe them with metadata. It's reasonable that they would expect that their data will continue to be findable and accessible into "perpetuity". Furthermore, minting citable permanent identifiers for software resources in your registry / repository is a commitment to preservation - these permanent identifiers should continue to resolve to the software artifacts they pointed originally at.

As a side note, the repository / registry itself should be reproducible (on GitHub, e.g., <https://github.com/research-software-directory/research-software-directory> or <https://github.com/comses/comses.net>)

Examples in the wild:

<https://help.osf.io/hc/en-us/articles/360019737894-FAQs#what-if-you-run-out-of-funding-what-happens-to-my-data>

<https://help.zenodo.org/>

<https://www.comses.net/about/faq/>

Astronomy examples:

- Person not maintaining and disappearing from e-life, yet the compiled code lives in the wild. (karma)

Two cases considered:

1. The registered / ingested software goes away: have tombstone metadata page / "death mask" for the software (ideally still able to download the source code). Keep a snapshot of the code from the last_change_date moment ('the death mask'). Even those code is

available, the language may be dead (python2, java,...) - is this the museum analogy? Some people will write emulators or revive such compilers in private space and still can work with the code.

2. Funding for the registry / repository disappears and the registry / repository can no longer be maintained
 - Need to reserve resources to transfer materials to another repository. Then we need a repository that has a compatible mechanism.
 - The repository / registry itself should be reproducible (on GitHub, e.g., <https://github.com/research-software-directory/research-software-directory> or <https://github.com/comses/comses.net>)