NARRATOR: Technicians bid good night to space shuttle Endeavour as it was turned off for the last time May 11 inside one of the hangars that had prepped the spacecraft for missions into orbit.

Walter "Buddy" Mckenzie, United Space Alliance: I'd like to dedicate this power down to those who are not so fortunate to be here today, to those who gave their blood, sweat and heart to the program.

NARRATOR: Endeavour launched from NASA's Kennedy Space Center, where the power down took place, 25 times.

The first came 20 years ago nearly to the day when Endeavour took off on its maiden flight to capture a stranded satellite.

Sitting inside the flight deck and at control consoles outside the spacecraft,

workers ran through a power-down checklist with the same precision they applied to launch preparations.
A simple command and switch flip darkened the displays on Endeavour's "glass cockpit," though the emotions of the moment were acknowledged.

Endeavour, the youngest of the five shuttles built for NASA, was also the last to be closed out for a new career on public display. Discovery and Atlantis were powered down already.

The work on Endeavour is far from complete. NASA plans to ship Endeavour to Los Angeles at the end of the summer so it can go on public display at the California Science Center.

Technicians still have a number of cables and other wiring to disconnect before outfitting Endeavour with an aerodynamic tail cone for its flight to the West Coast aboard NASA's shuttle carrier aircraft.

CONTROLLER: AST 107 signing off.