

irreversible transition

A transition that changes the state of a system which cannot be readily reversed to restore the system to its original state. Example: The conversion of TiO₂ (anatase) to TiO₂ (rutile).

Source:

PAC, 1994, 66, 577 (*Definitions of terms relating to phase transitions of the solid state (IUPAC Recommendations 1994)*) on page 584