

**U.S. NRC**

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

*Protecting People and the Environment*

Public Outreach Meeting  
Comanche Peak Nuclear Power  
Plant, Units 3 and 4  
Combined License Application

Thomas Bergman, Deputy Director for Licensing Operations  
Division of New Reactor Licensing

# Purposes of this meeting

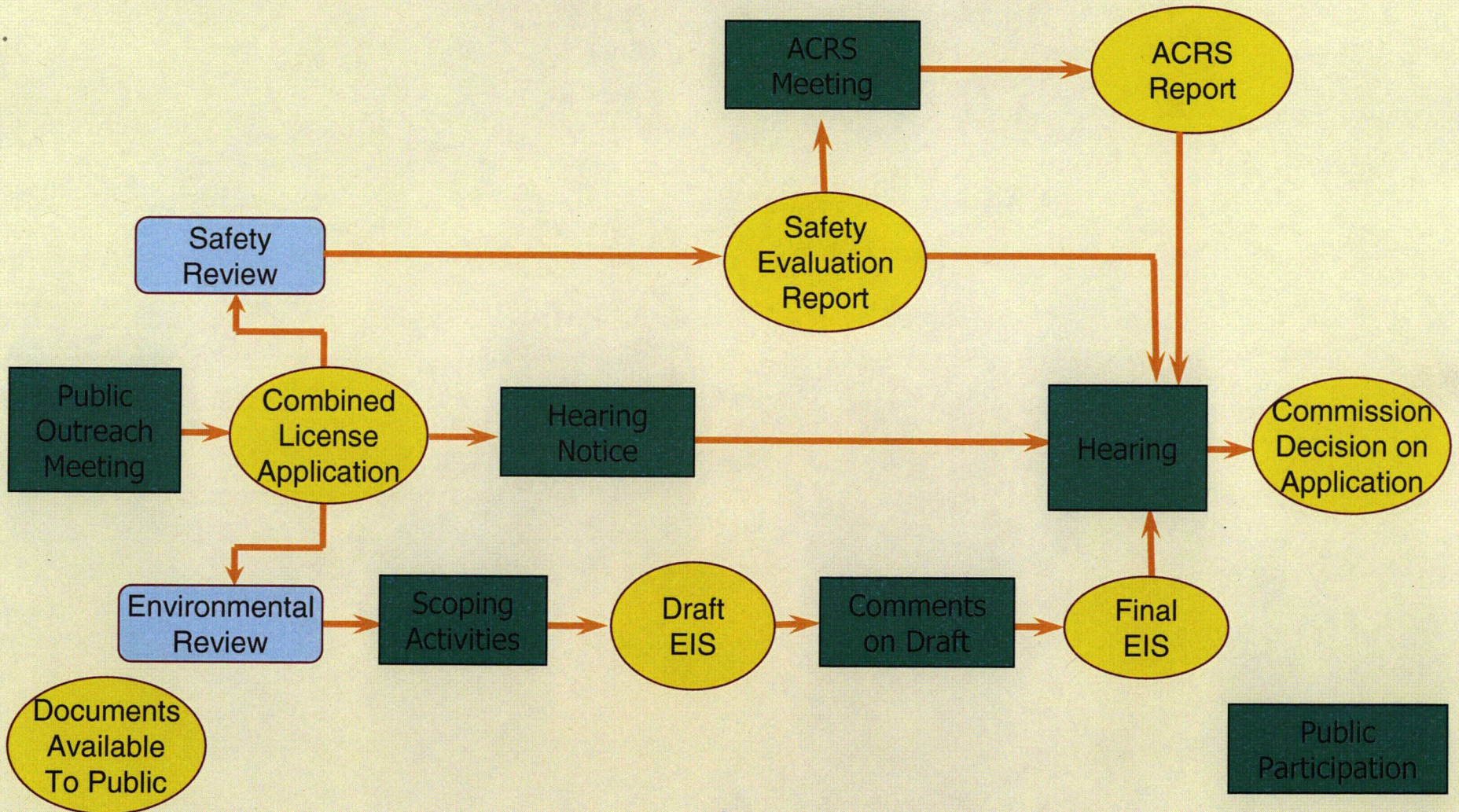
- Discuss the potential combined license application for two new nuclear plants at the Comanche Peak Nuclear Power Plant
- Explain what the NRC does during the review of a combined license application
- Describe how you can participate in the NRC review process
- Discuss the NRC construction inspection program



# Nuclear Regulatory Commission

- Mission: to protect the public health and safety, promote the common defense and security, and protect the environment
- Independent Agency
- Over 30 years experience regulating operating reactors and other civilian uses of nuclear materials

# Combined License Application Review Process



# Combined License Application Review and Construction Inspection

- Stephen Monarque, Project Manager
  - Overall Combined License Application Review
- Michael Willingham, Project Manager
  - Environmental Review
- Michael Webb, Reactor Operations Engineer
  - Construction Inspection

# Safety Review

- Ensure facility will be constructed and operated safely by reviewing:
  - Design of facility
  - Quality assurance
  - Security plan
  - Emergency preparedness (with the Federal Emergency Management Agency)
  - Operator Training
  - Applicant's process to verify that the nuclear plants will be built as designed and operated in accordance with NRC regulations
- Clearly document our safety findings
- Maintain an open and transparent process

# **Comanche Peak COL Application**

- Comanche Peak COL Application will reference the Mitsubishi Heavy Industries – (MHI) design for the U.S. Advanced Pressurized Water Reactor (US-APWR)
  - US-APWR design currently under review by the NRC
- NRC will not issue COL prior to documenting its safety findings for the US-APWR design

# Opportunities for Public Participation

- NRC processes and how to participate
- Information available to public at [www.nrc.gov](http://www.nrc.gov)
- Meetings between the NRC and the applicant
- Comment on environmental review
- Participate in Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards meetings
- Participate in the hearing process



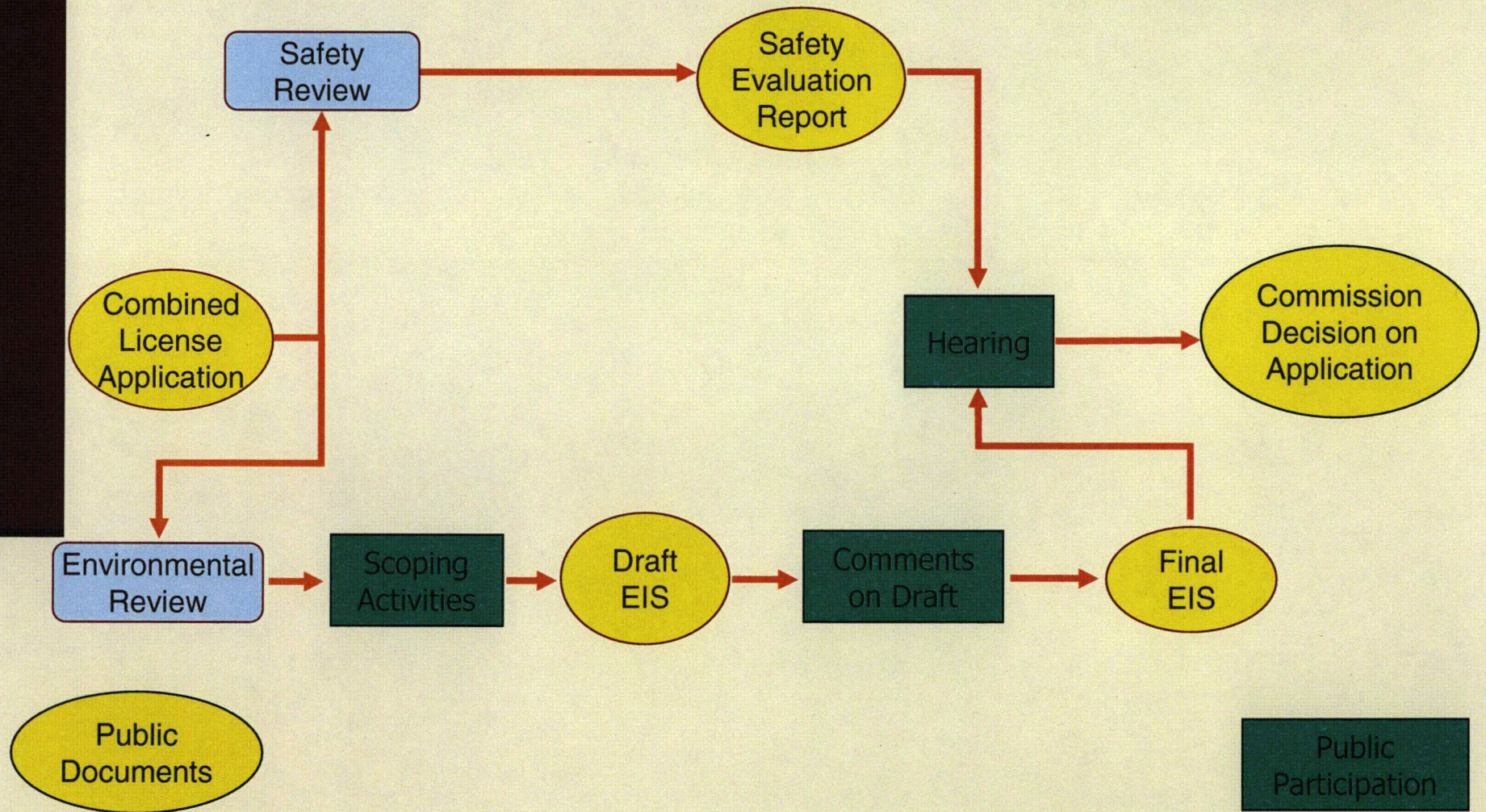
# The Hearing Process

- NRC issues a Notice of Hearing in the *Federal Register*, which offers an opportunity for the public to participate in the hearing as a party (called “intervention”)
- *Federal Register* notice describes how to file petition using e-filing system ([www.nrc.gov/site-help/e-submittals.html](http://www.nrc.gov/site-help/e-submittals.html))
- A request (petition) to intervene must:
  - be filed within 60 days of the date of the Notice
  - must state petitioner’s interest that may be affected - at least one acceptable dispute with the application
- Three judges (Atomic Safety and Licensing Board (ASLB)) decide whether to grant intervention and conduct hearing
- A person who did not seek to intervene or was not granted intervention may make a statement to the Board, although this statement is not evidence in the hearing
- Regulations governing intervention are in 10 C.F.R. 2.309

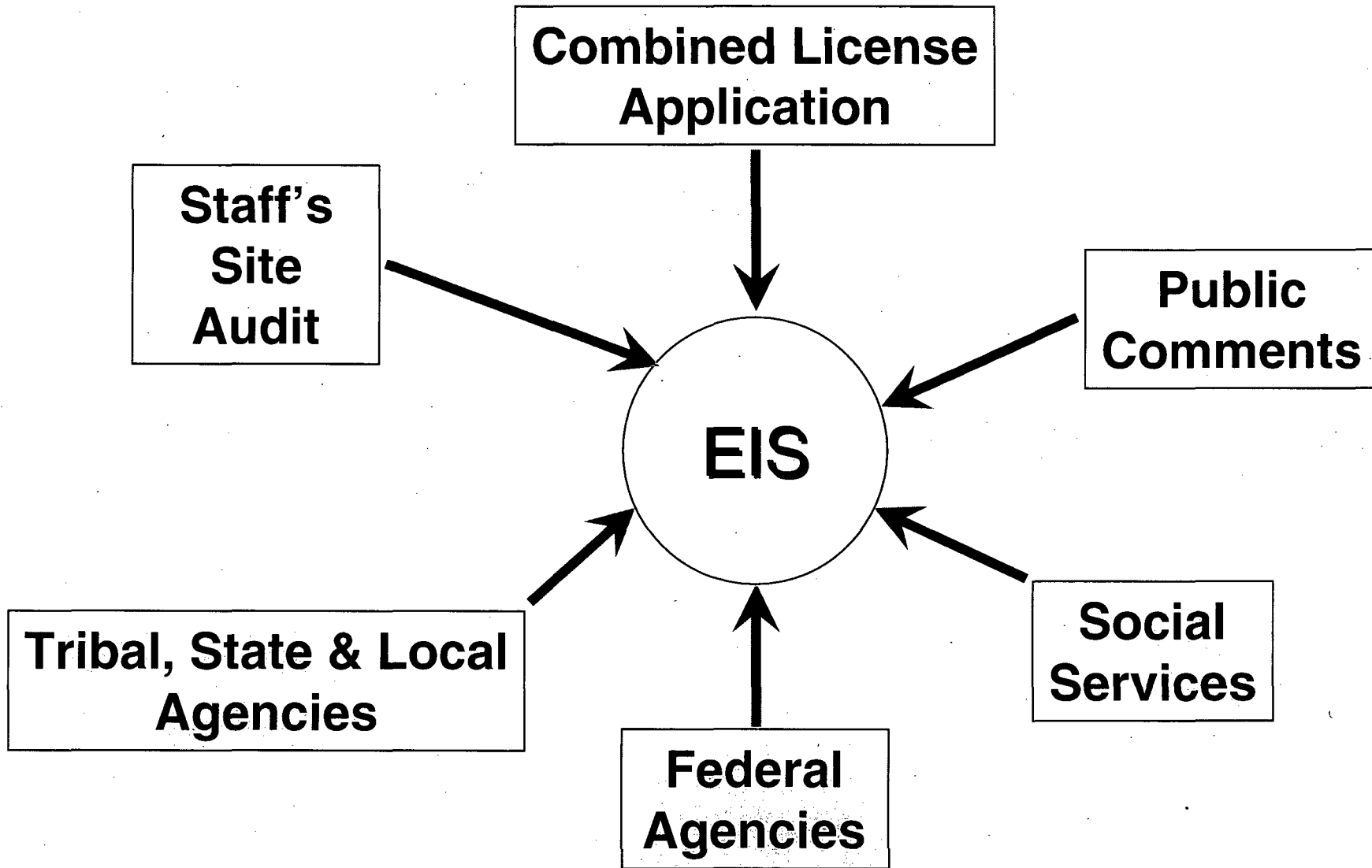
# **National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)**

- NEPA requires Federal agencies to use a systematic approach to consider environmental impacts
- An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is required for major Federal actions that may significantly affect the quality of the human environment
- Granting a combined license is considered a major Federal action

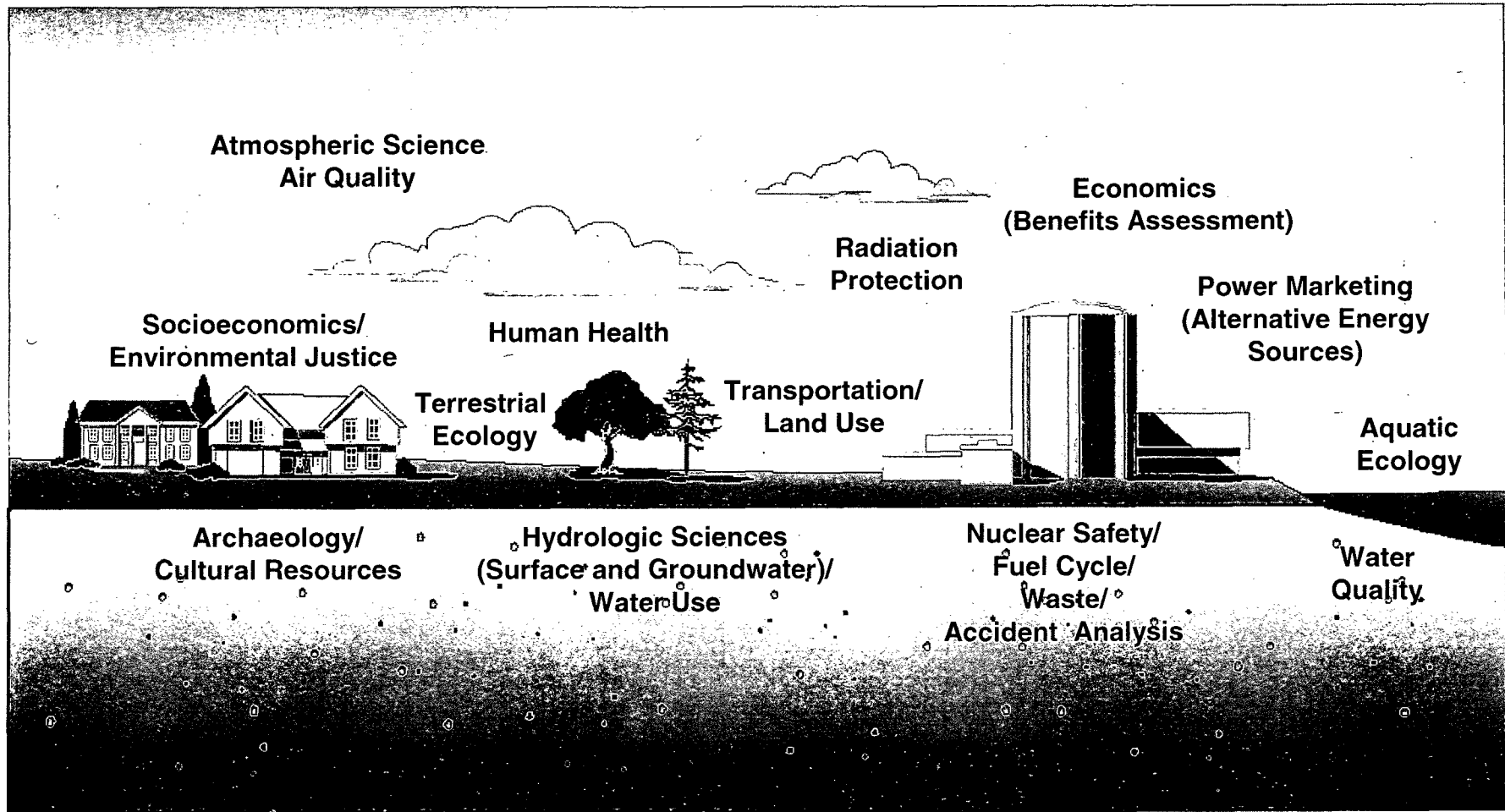
# Combined License Application Environmental Review Process



# Information Gathering

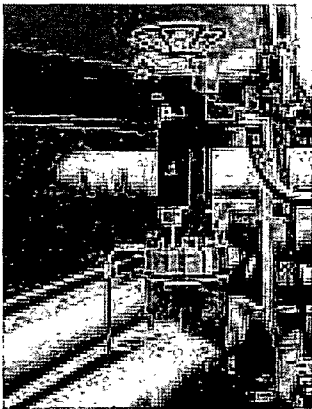
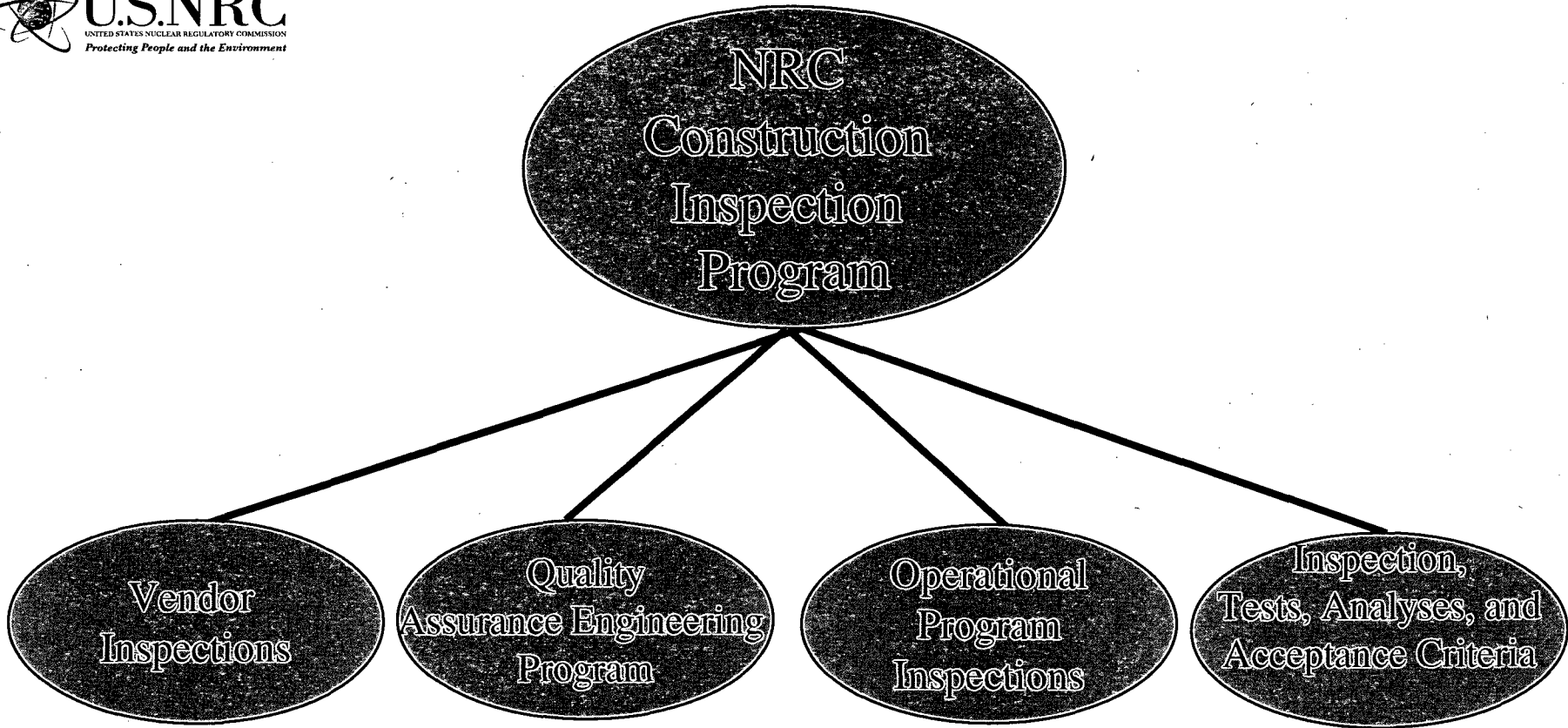


# Environmental Review Areas



# If the License is issued....

- The NRC will authorize the licensee to start construction of a nuclear power plant, to load fuel, and (eventually) to operate the completed plant, if specified conditions are met.
- NRC staff will inspect nuclear safety–related construction activities.
- NRC will verify that, prior to operation, the plant is built as designed.



# ITAAC

- ITAAC is defined as Inspections, Tests, Analyses, and Acceptance Criteria.
- ITAAC are the means by which the licensee demonstrates, and the NRC confirms, that the plant was built properly.
- Prior to plant operation all acceptance criteria must be met.
- Provides an opportunity for separate hearing based on whether acceptance criteria are met.





# NRC CONTACTS

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