

U.S. NRC

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Protecting People and the Environment

**Public Outreach Meeting
Victoria County Station
Units 1 and 2
Combined License Application**

Belkys Sosa

Branch Chief

Division of New Reactor Licensing



Purposes of this meeting

- Discuss the potential combined license application for two new nuclear power plants at the Victoria County Station
- 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



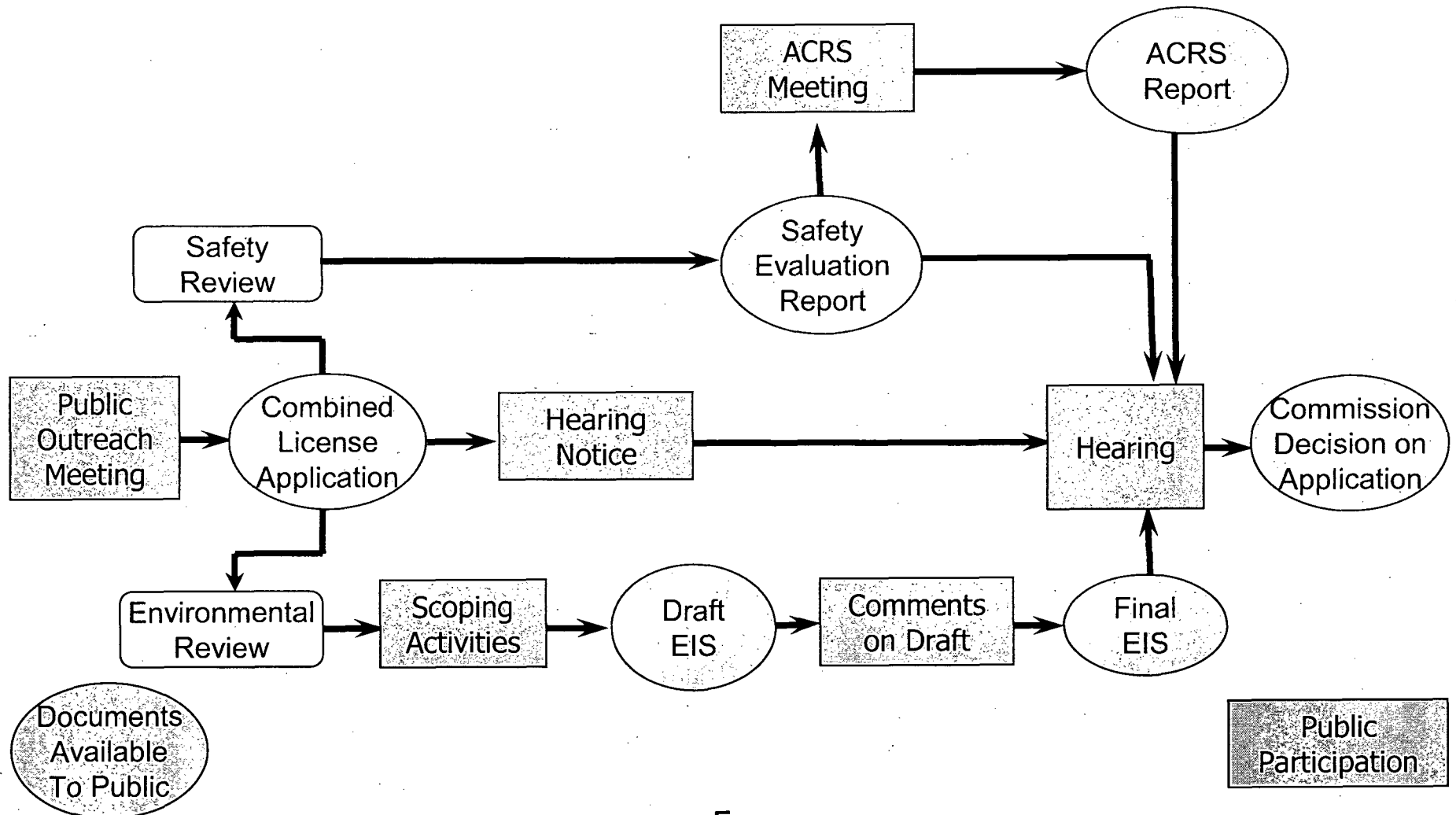
Combined License Application Review and Construction Inspection

- Mark Tonacci, Project Manager
 - Overall Combined License Application Review

- Paul Michalak, Project Manager
 - Environmental Review

- Robert Pascarelli, Reactor Operations Engineer
 - Construction Inspection

Combined License Application Review Process



Safety Review

- Ensure facility will be constructed and operated safely by reviewing:
 - Design of facility
 - Quality assurance
 - Security plan
 - Radiation Protection
 - 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

Victoria County Station Application

- Victoria County Station COL Application will reference the General Electric – Hitachi (GEH) design for the Economic Simplified Boiling Water Reactor (ESBWR)
 - ESBWR design is currently under review by the NRC
- NRC will not issue COL prior to documenting its safety findings for the ESBWR design

Opportunities for Public Participation

- NRC processes and how to participate
- Information available to public at 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

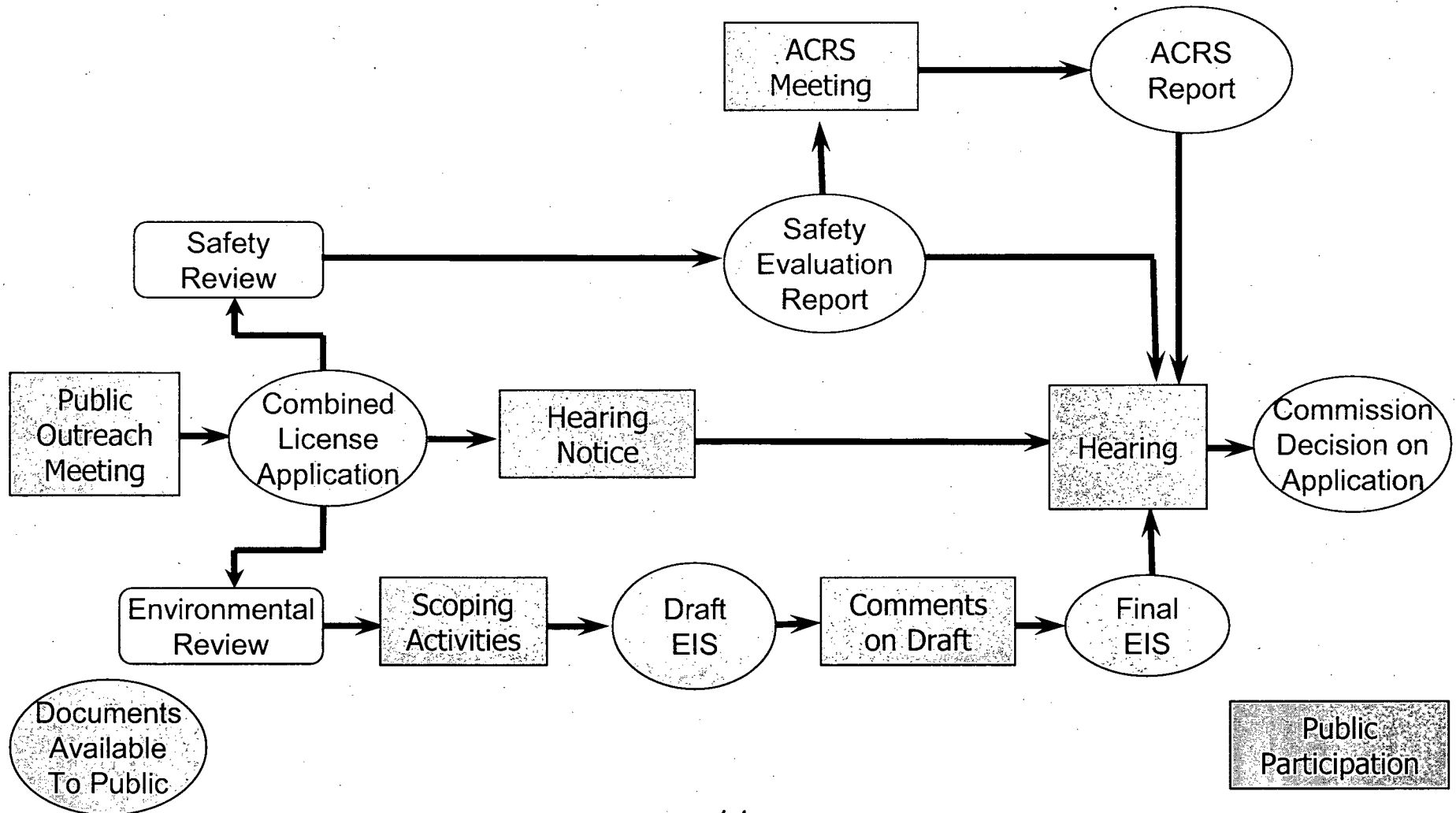
- NRC issues a Notice of Hearing in the *Federal Register*, which offers an opportunity for the public to participate in the hearing as a party (called “intervention”)
- *Federal Register* notice describes how to file petition using e-filing system (www.nrc.gov/site-help/e-submittals.html)
- A request (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



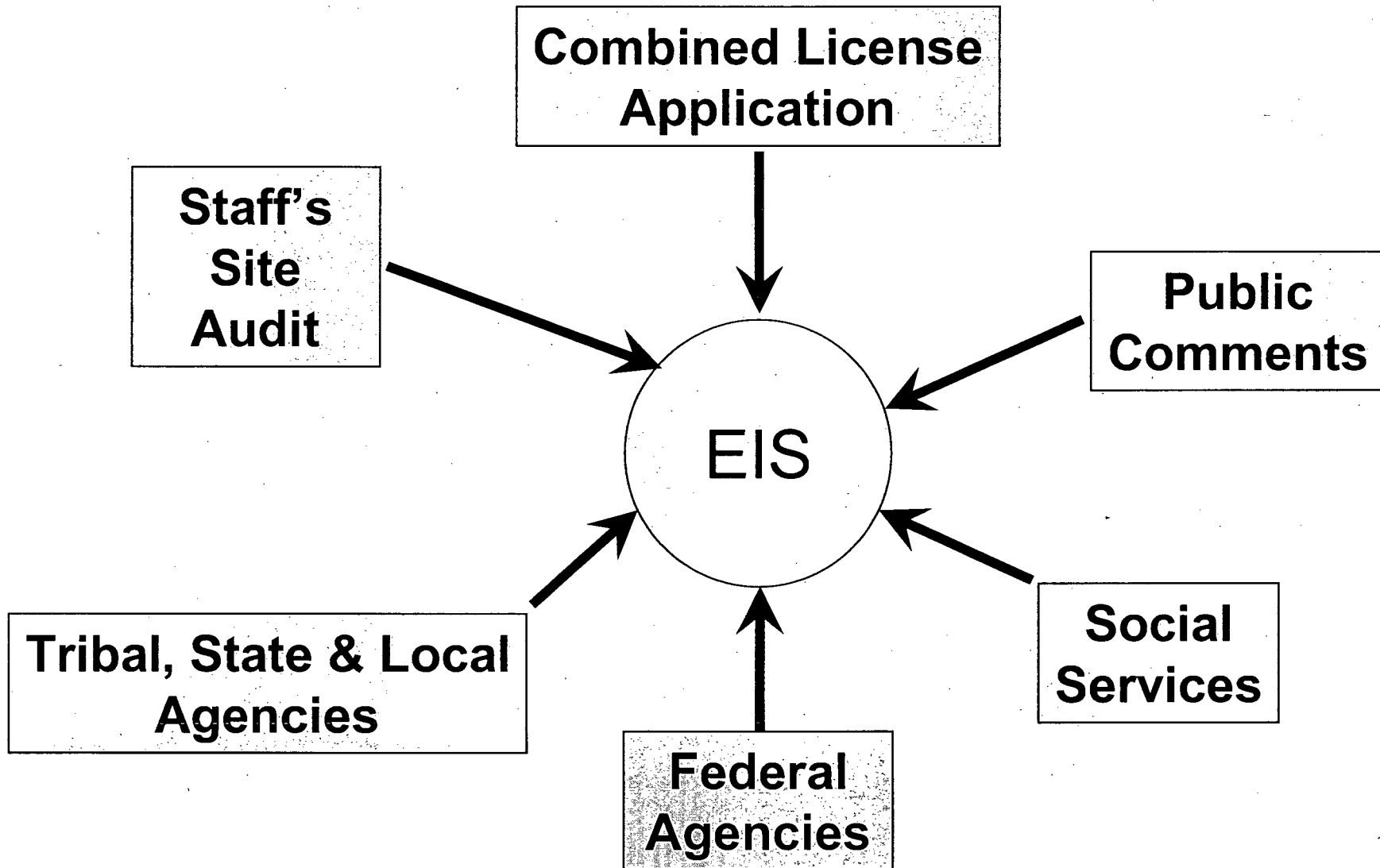
National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

- 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

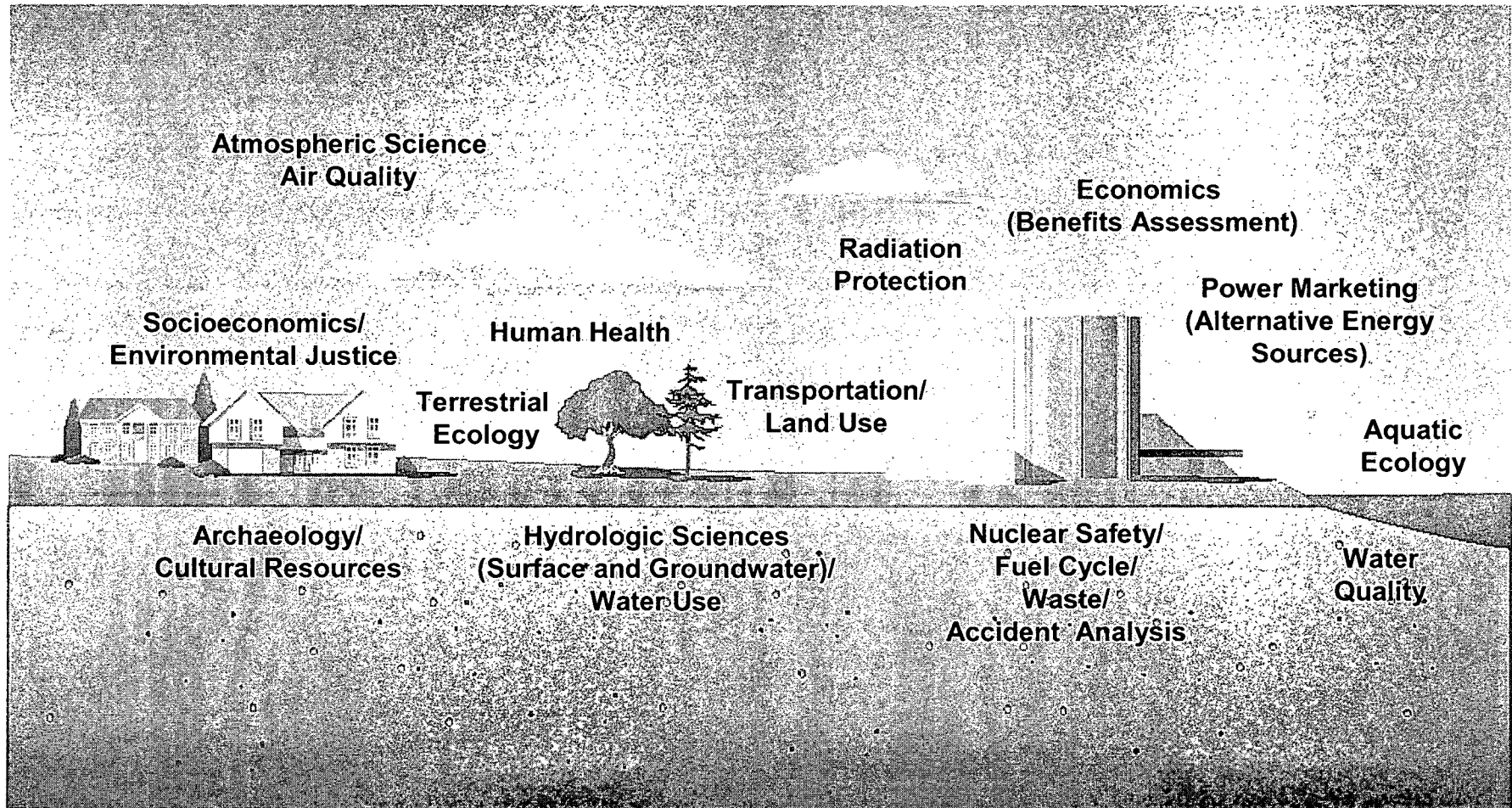
Combined License Application Review Process



Information Gathering

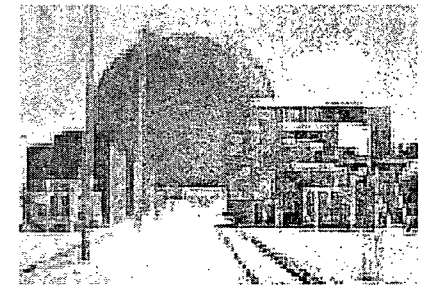
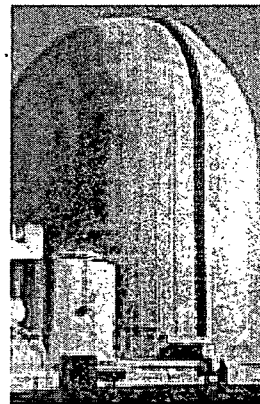
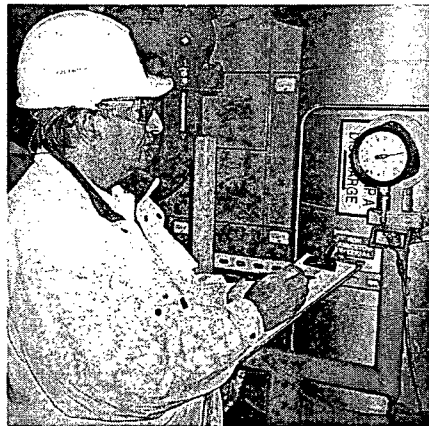
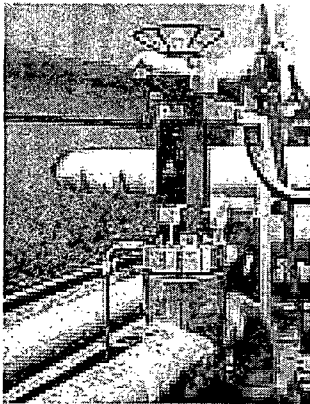
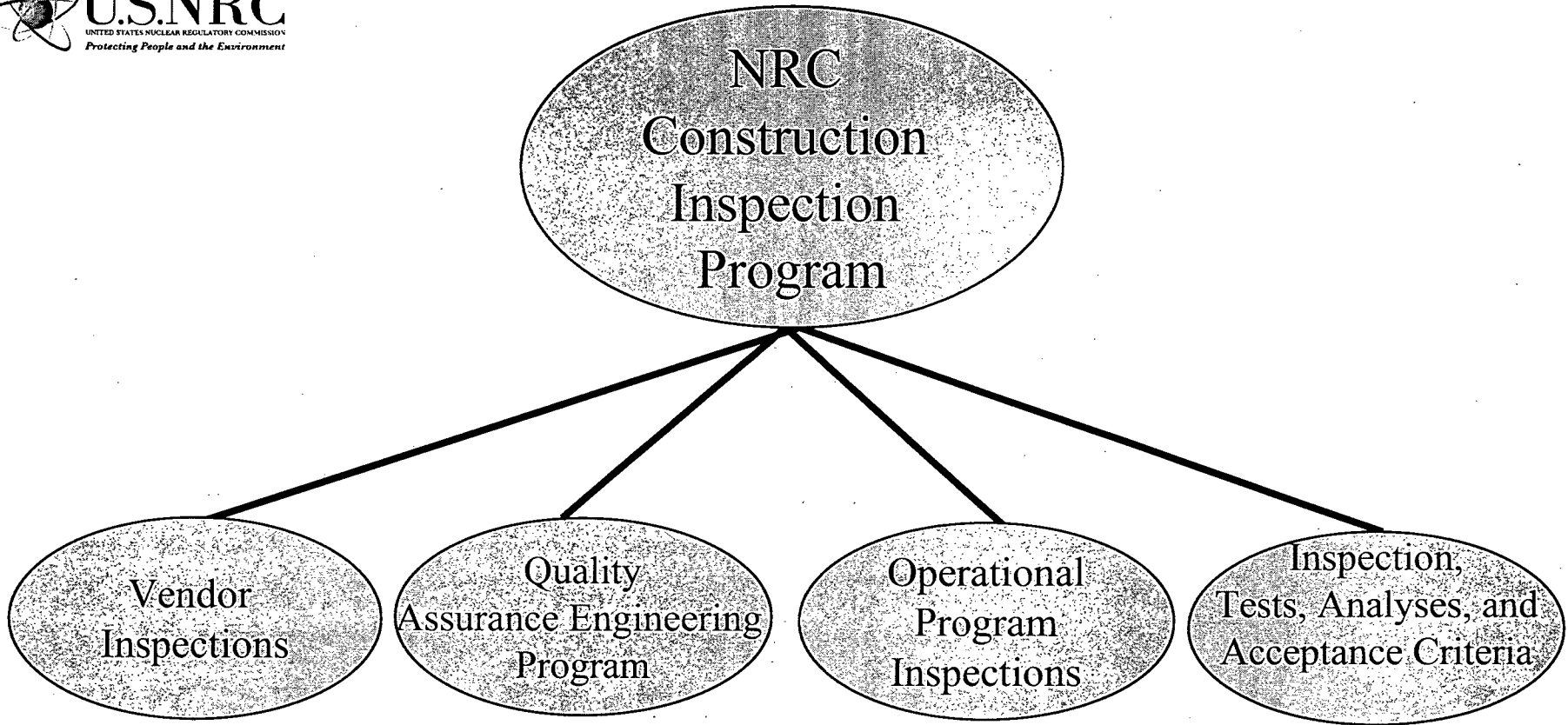


Environmental Review Areas



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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NRC WEB SITES FOR NEW REACTOR LICENSING

- How NRC Regulates New Reactors
<http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-reactor-licensing.html>
 - List of Combined License Applications
<http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-licensing/col.html>
 - Standard Review Plan for the Review of Safety Analysis Reports for Nuclear Power Plants
<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/nuregs/staff/sr0800/>
 - Combined License Application Guidance
<http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-licensing/col-appl-guide.html>
 - Design Certifications - Licensing Reviews
<http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-licensing/design-cert.html>
 - New Reactors Licensing Process
<http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-licensing/licensing-process.html>
 - New Reactors Related Documents
<http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-licensing/related-documents.html>
- Public Involvement in Hearings
<http://www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/regulatory/adjudicatory/hearing.html>