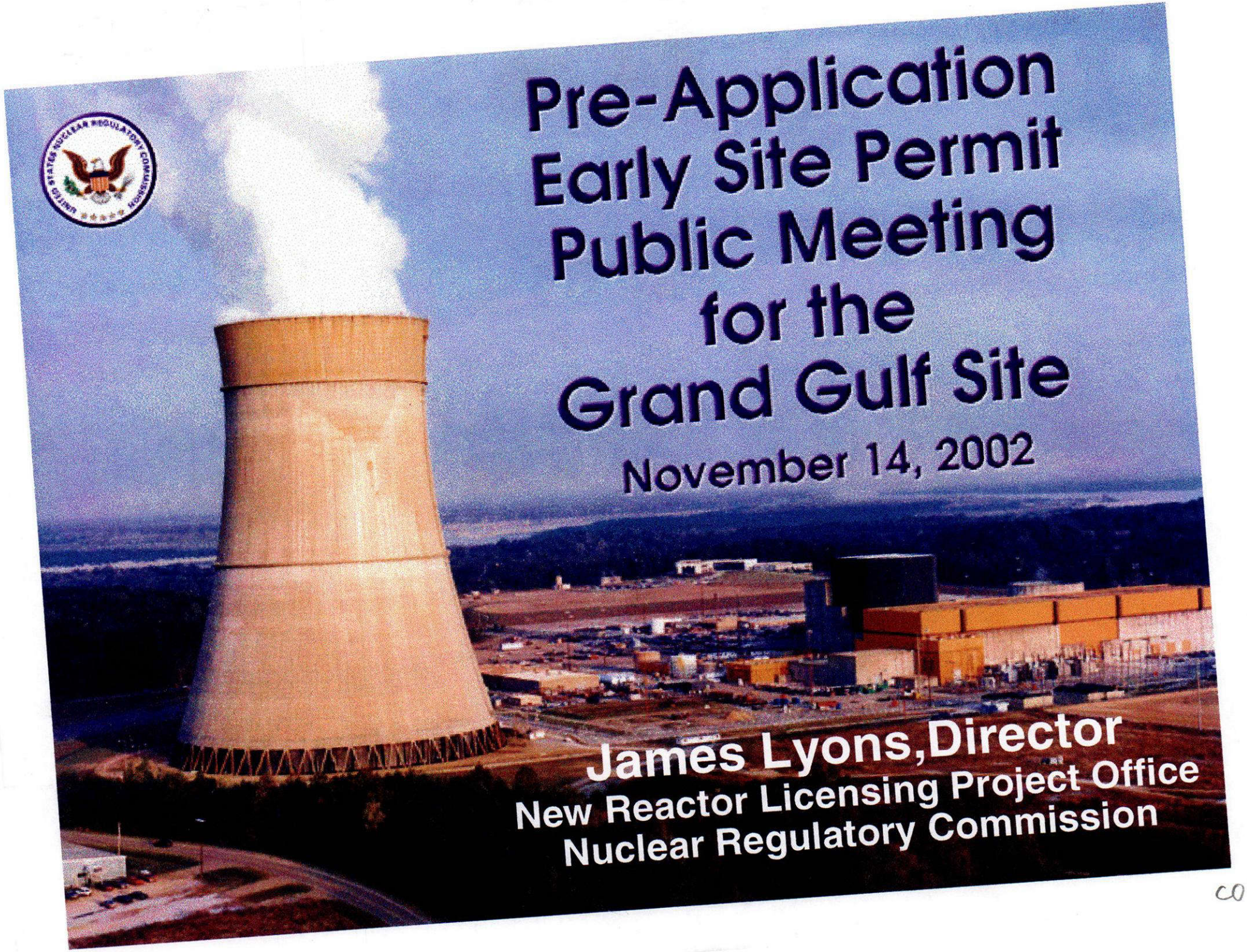


Pre-Application Early Site Permit Public Meeting for the Grand Gulf Site

November 14, 2002

James Lyons, Director
New Reactor Licensing Project Office
Nuclear Regulatory Commission

co

Who is the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission?

- Independent agency
- Experienced regulator
- Mission: protect health, safety, and the environment
- Regulates commerical nuclear reactor activities

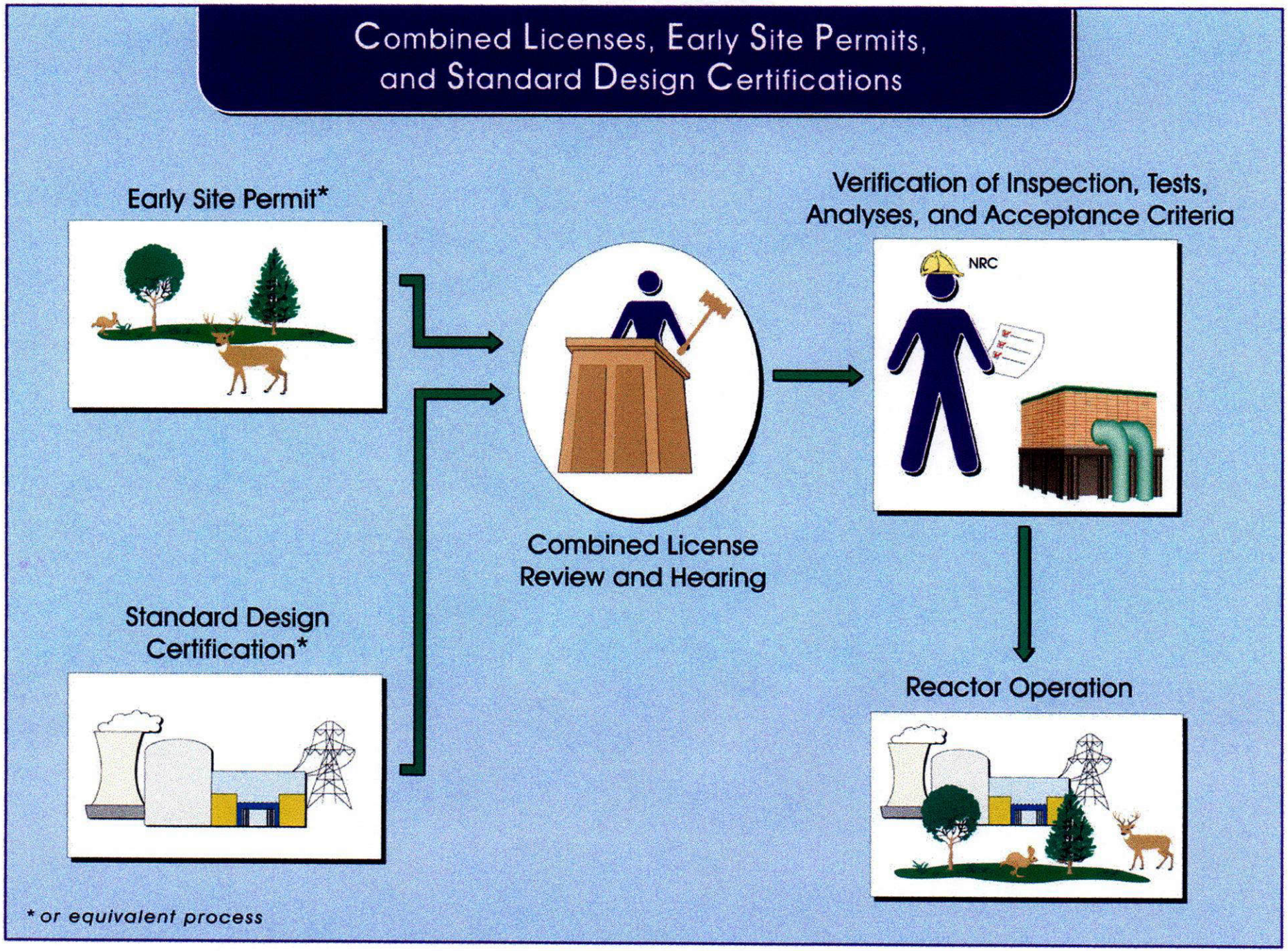
C02

What is NRC's Role at the Grand Gulf Site?

- Set rules that:
  - Protect public and workers safety
  - Are consistent with U.S. Federal laws and regulations
- Implements Two Step Licensing Process for new reactors

C03

Combined Licenses, Early Site Permits, and Standard Design Certifications



C04

How Will NRC Carry Out Its Role?

- Review all information objectively
- Make open decisions based on the facts
- Maintain an open public process

C05

Early Site Permits

Ronaldo Jenkins
New Reactor Licensing Project Office
Nuclear Regulatory Commission

November 14, 2002

C06

Introduction

- Early Site Permit Review Process
- Schedule
- Questions and Answers
- Public Participation
- Questions and Answers

C07

What is an Early Site Permit?

An NRC decision that ensures that the proposed site is suitable if a nuclear power plant is constructed and protects:

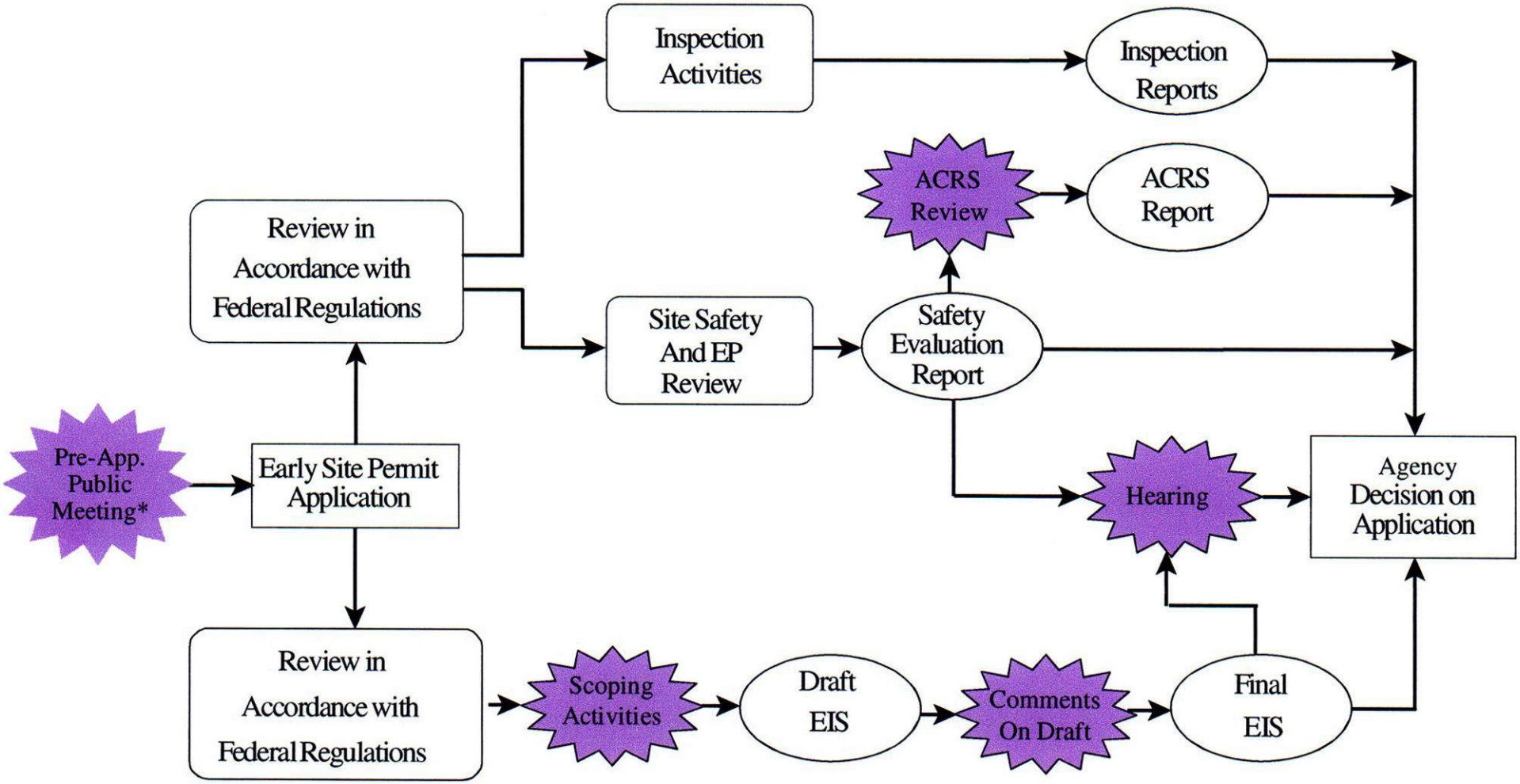
- Public health and safety
- Environment

C08

Why does an Applicant Want an ESP?

- Reduce licensing uncertainty
- Resolve siting issues resolved prior to construction
- Allow an applicant to "bank" a site
- Provide regulatory stability for next 10-20 years

Early Site Permit Review Process



Formal Public Participation

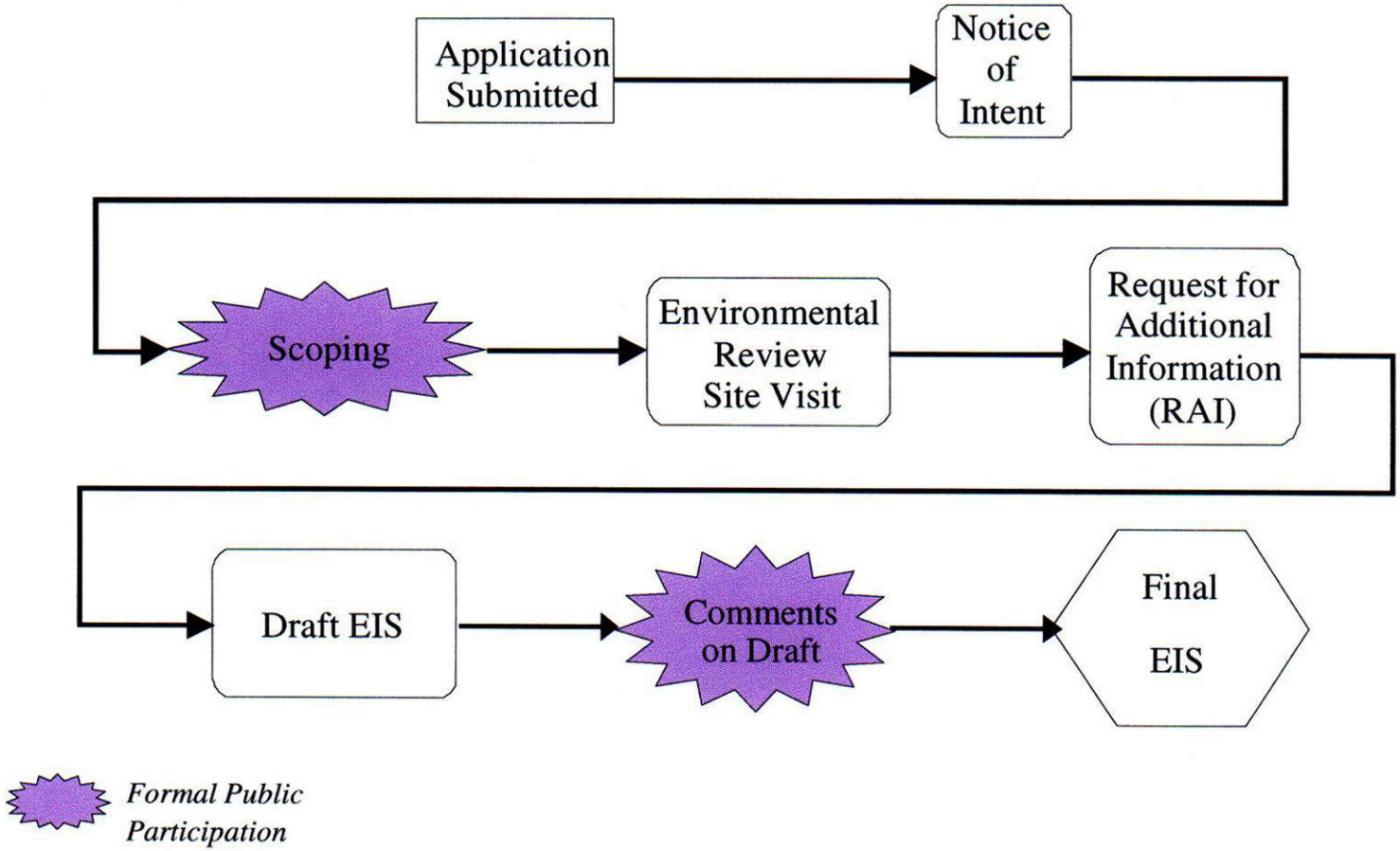
* *Not required*

C10

National Environmental Policy Act

- Early Site Permit is considered a major federal action
- Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is required for major federal actions
- NEPA requires a systematic approach to consider environmental impacts

Environmental Review Process



C12

Areas Reviewed

- Surface water quality, hydrology, & use
- Aquatic ecology
- Ground-water use & quality
- Threatened or endangered species
- Air quality
- Land use
- Uranium fuel cycle & waste management

C13

Areas Reviewed
(continued)

- Human health
- Socioeconomics
- Postulated accidents
- Decommissioning
- Environmental justice
- Alternative Sites

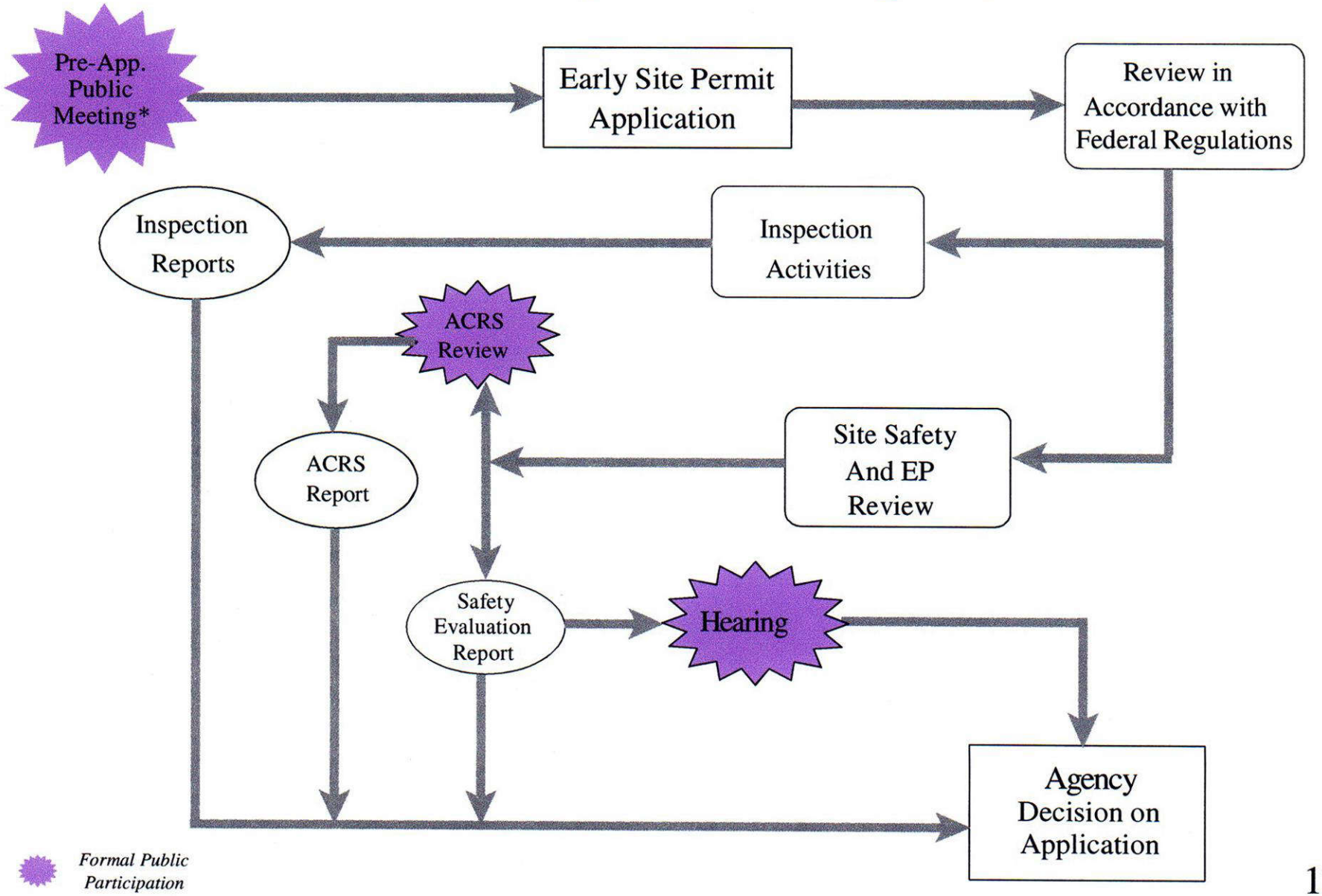
C14

Issues Not Considered In ESP Environmental Review

- Need for power
- Cost of power
- Spent fuel disposal (except for transportation)

C15

Site Safety and Emergency



Formal Public Participation

* *Not required*

C16

Site Safety and Emergency Preparedness Review Process

- Site Safety review
  - Site visit
    - Layout and characteristics
    - Data gathering
  - Application and other related information

C17

Site Safety and Emergency Preparedness Review Process

- Site Safety review
  - Seismology
  - Geology
  - Hydrology
  - Meteorology
  - Geography
  - Demography (population distribution)
  - Site Hazards Evaluation

C18

Site Safety and Emergency Preparedness Review Process

- Emergency Preparedness review
  - Site visit
    - Physical impediments
    - Population distribution
    - Transportation routes
  - Proposed emergency plan or other information
  - Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

Application Schedule

- Grand Gulf (MS) June 2003
- Clinton (IL) June 2003
- North Anna (VA) September 2003

- Agency decision expected
  30 months after application receipt

Public Involvement

- Pre-application public meeting at site
- Public interation during environmental review
  - Comment periods
  - Public meetings
- Technical meetings

Public Involvement
(continued)

- Atomic Safety Licensing Board hearing
  - Opportunity to participate provided
- Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards
  - Independent review
  - Advises Commission
  - Public meetings

C22

Where Can I Find the Results?

- Safety Evaluation Report
- Environmental Impact Statement
- Meeting Summaries
- Inspection Reports

C23

Point of Contact

- Agency points of contact:

  Ronaldo Jenkins
  1 (800) 368-5642 extension 2985

  Jim Wilson
  1 (800) 368-5642 extension 1108

- Documents located can be viewed at NRC's Web site (www.nrc.gov)