Pre-Application Early Site Permit Public Meeting for the North Anna Site

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New Reactor Licensing Project Office
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

April 1, 2003

Who is the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission?

- Independent Federal agency
  - Five Commissioners
  - Professional staff
- Experienced regulator
- Mission: To protect public health and safety, promote common defense and security, and protect the environment
- Regulate commercial nuclear reactor activities

NRC History

Atomic Energy Commission

1974

Energy Reorganization Act

Independent **Regulatory** Agency
Protect Public Health & Safety

Executive Branch Agency
Increase Domestic Energy Production

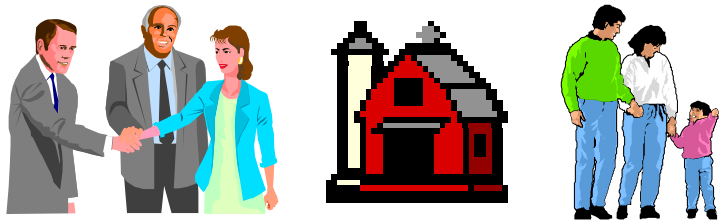
Key Participants in NRC Licensing Process

Dominion Energy, Inc.

Applicant
Electric Power Company

Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Regulatory Agency
Licensing Authority
Protect Public Health & Safety

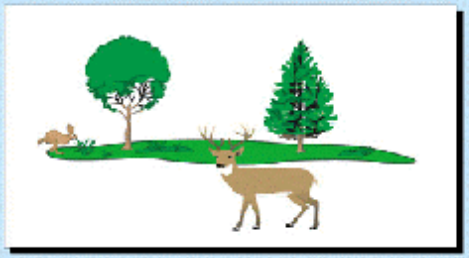


STAKEHOLDERS

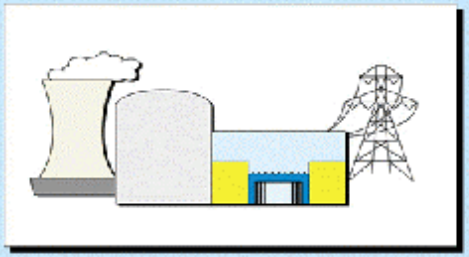
Participate Through Public Meetings & Hearings

Combined Licenses, Early Site Permits, and Standard Design Certifications

Early Site Permit*



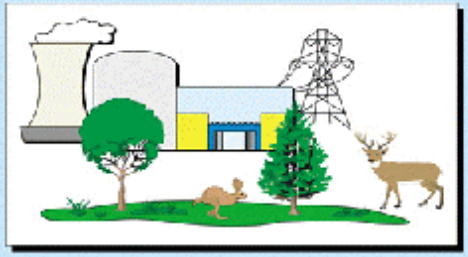
Standard Design Certification*



Combined License Review and Hearing

Verification of Inspection, Tests, Analyses, and Acceptance Criteria

Reactor Operation



* or equivalent process

How will the NRC carry out its role?

- Review all information objectively
- Make informed decisions based on the facts and in compliance with Federal regulations
- Maintain an open public process

Early Site Permits

Michael Scott

New Reactor Licensing Project Office

Andrew Kugler

License Renewal and Environmental Impacts Program

Introduction

- Discuss early site permit review process
- Discuss schedule
- Questions and answers

- Discuss how to participate in process
- Questions and answers

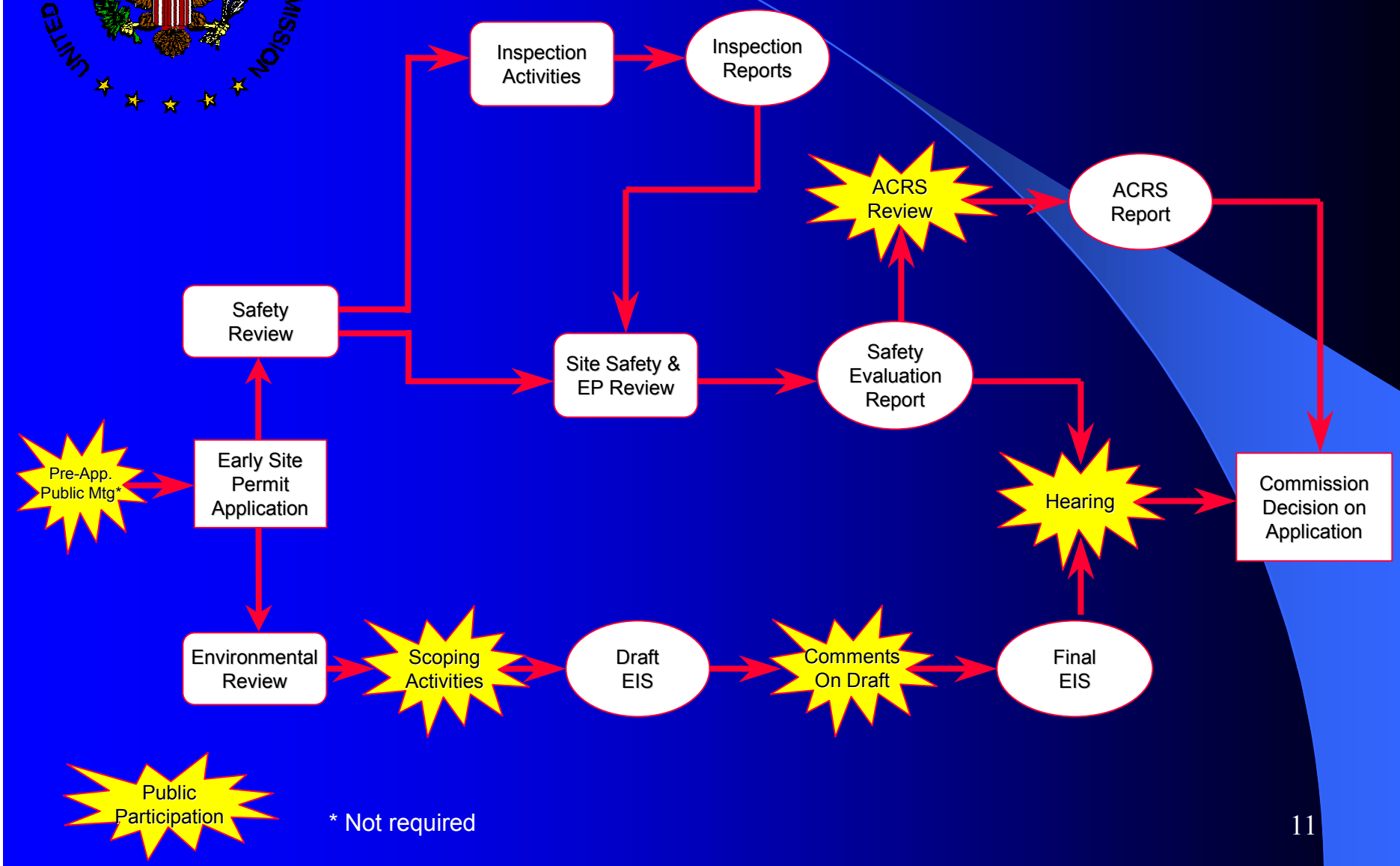
What is an early site permit?

An NRC decision that ensures that the proposed site is suitable for construction and operation of a nuclear power plant or plants

Why does an applicant want an early site permit?

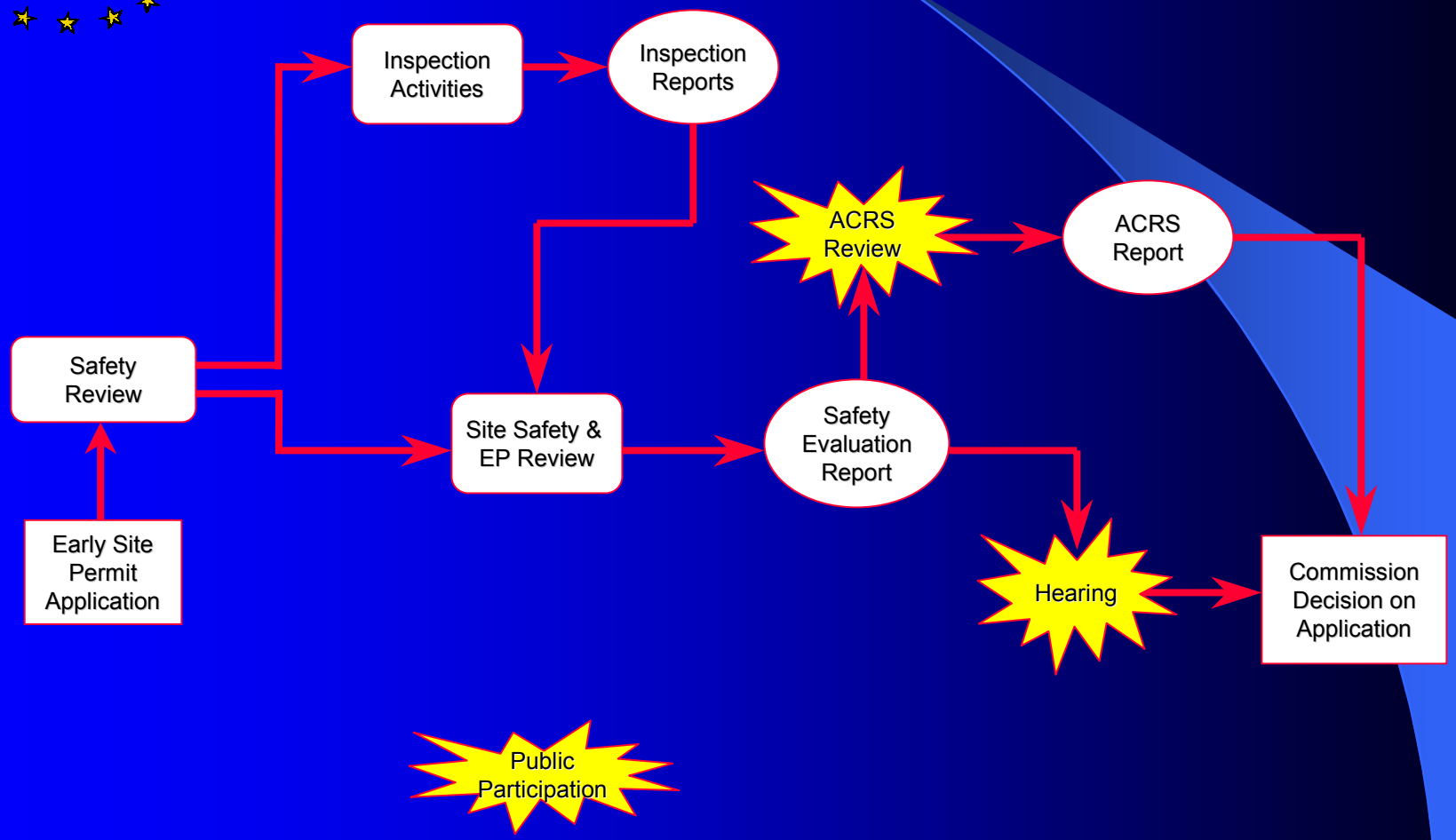
- Allows an applicant to "bank" a site for up to 20 years
- Reduces licensing uncertainty
- Resolves siting issues before construction

Early Site Permit Review Process



* Not required

Site Safety and Emergency Preparedness Review Process



* Not required

Site Safety and Emergency Preparedness Review Process

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

Site Safety and Emergency Preparedness Review Process (continued)

- Site Safety Review
  - Seismology
  - Geology
  - Hydrology
  - Meteorology
  - Geography
  - Demography (population distribution)
  - Site hazards evaluation

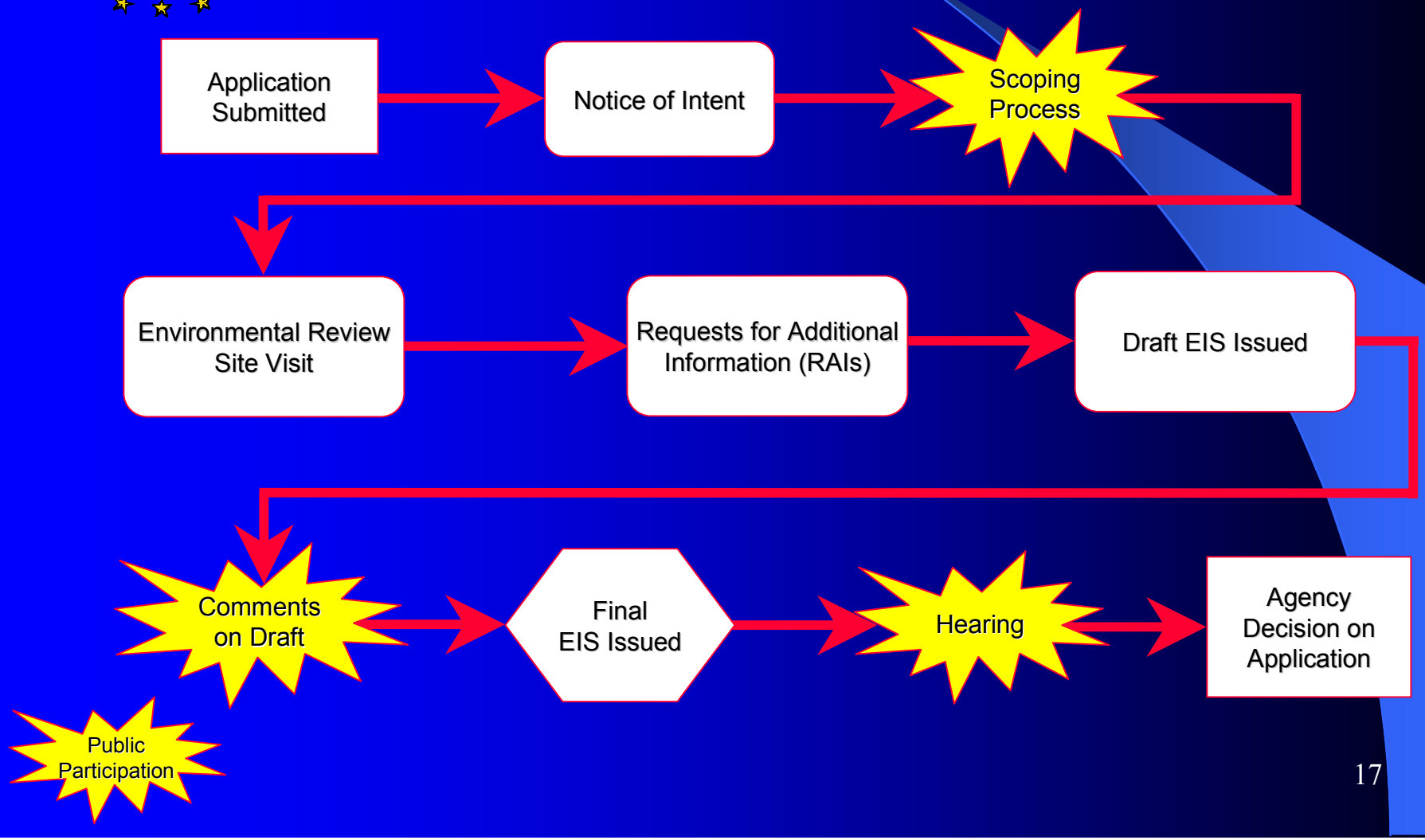
Site Safety and Emergency Preparedness Review Process (continued)

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

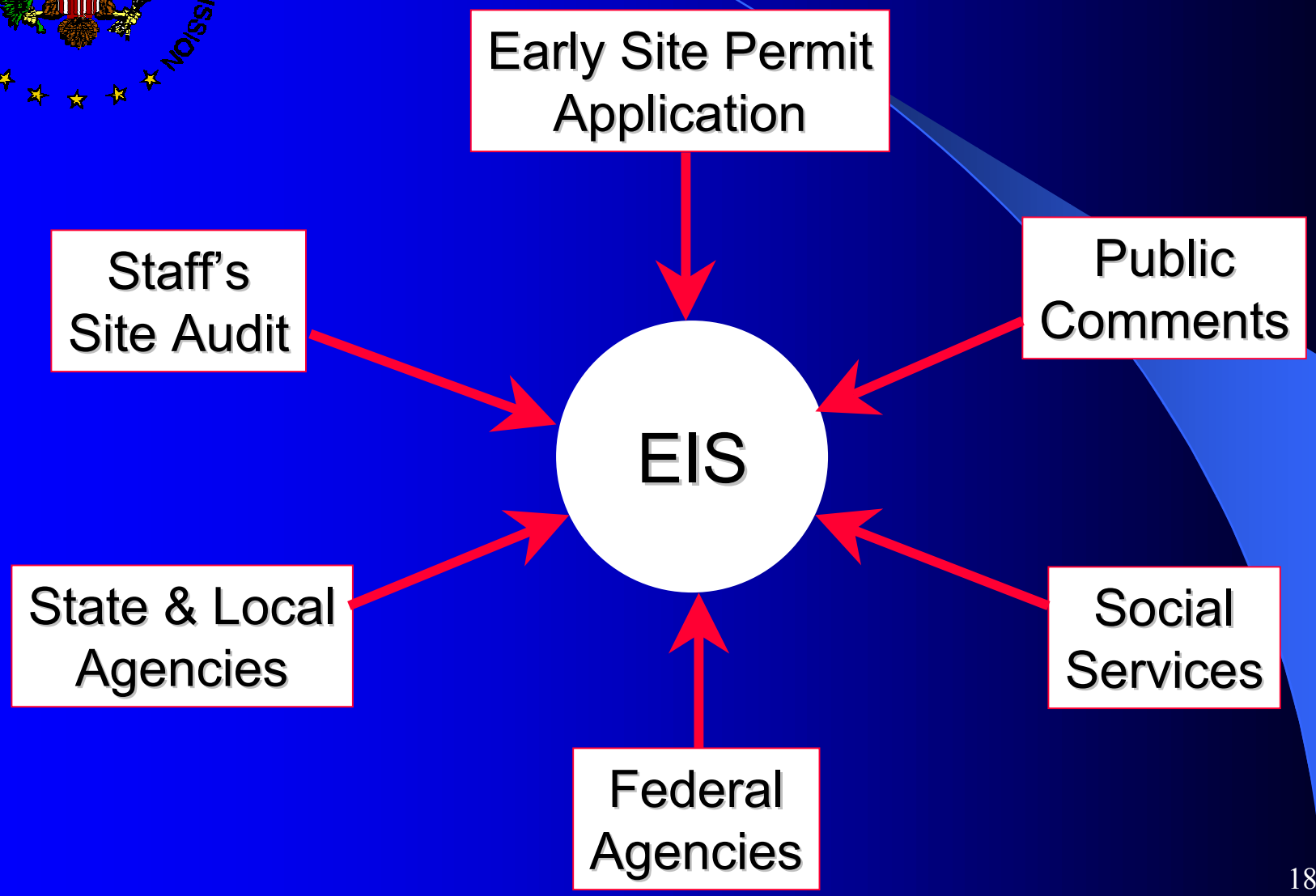
National Environmental Policy Act

- NEPA requires Federal agencies to use a systematic approach to consider environmental impacts
- An environmental impact statement (EIS) is required for major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment
- Issuing early site permit is considered a major Federal action

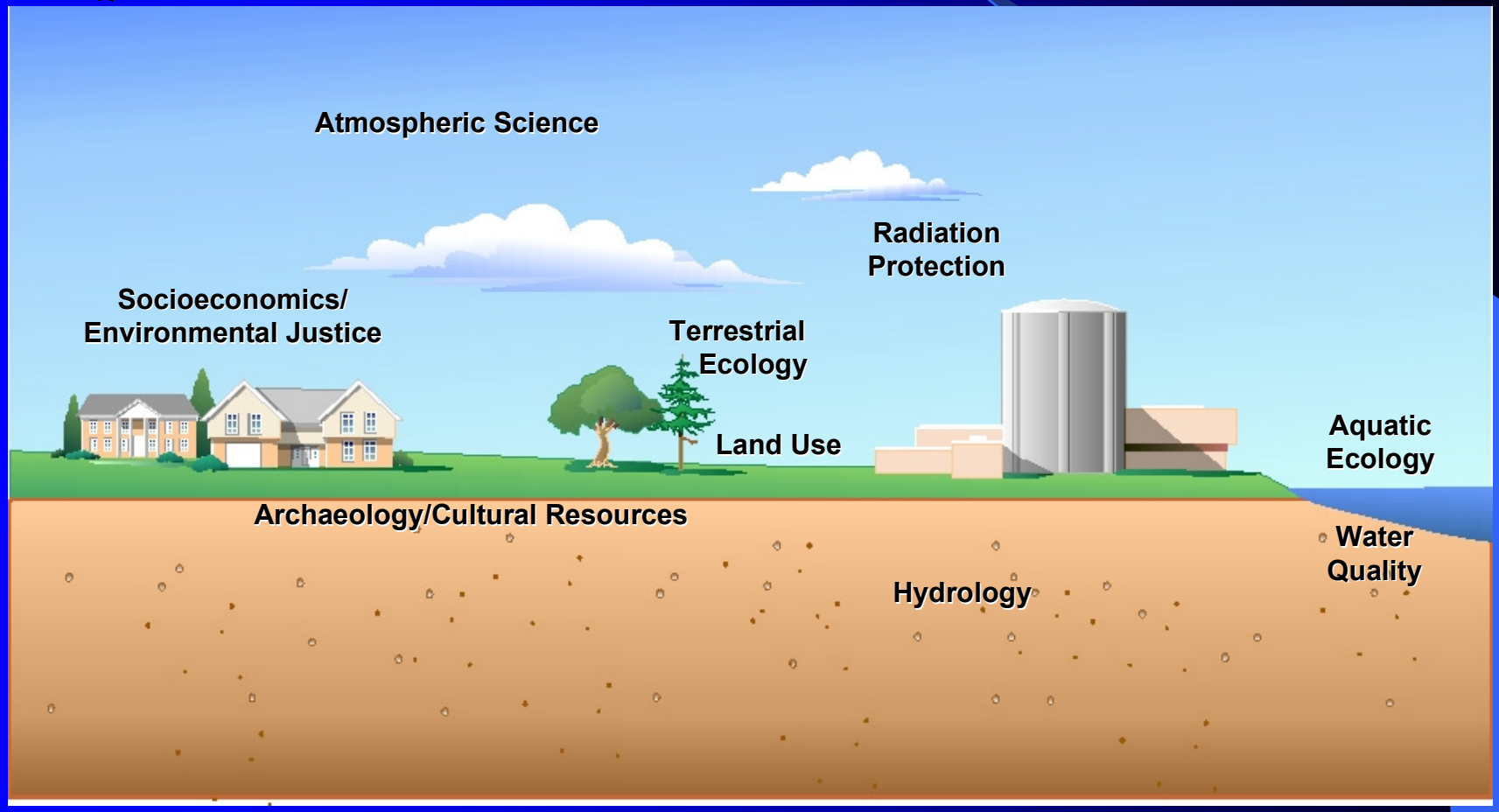
Environmental Review Process



Information Gathering



Team Expertise



Issues Not Considered in Early Site Permit Environmental Review

- Need for power
- Cost of power
- Onsite spent fuel storage

Application Schedule

➢ Clinton	Illinois	June 2003
➢ Grand Gulf	Mississippi	June 2003
➢ North Anna	Virginia	September 2003

Commission decision expected 33 months after application received (includes time for hearing process)

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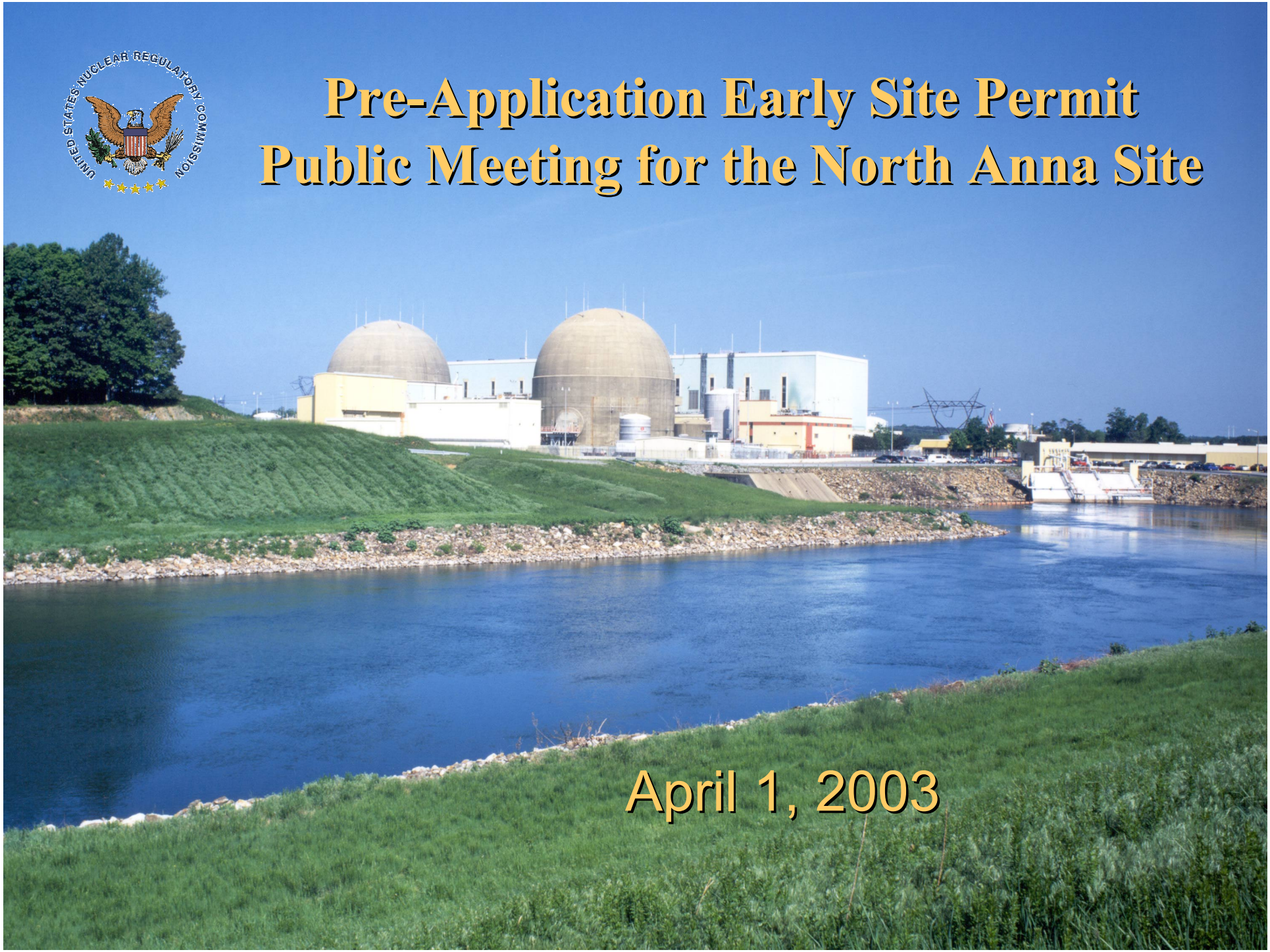

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Public Involvement

- Pre-application public meeting near site
- Public interaction during environmental review
  - Comment periods
  - Public meetings
- Technical meetings on site safety and emergency preparedness

Public Involvement
(continued)

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

Where Can I Find the Results?

- Safety evaluation report
- Environmental impact statement
- Meeting summaries
- Inspection reports

Points of Contact

- Agency points of contact:

  Michael Scott, Site Safety Project Manager
  1 (800) 368-5642, extension 1421

  Andrew Kugler, Environmental Project Manager
  1 (800) 368-5642, extension 2828

- Documents can be viewed in the "electronic reading room" on NRC's website (www.nrc.gov)

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION