

Preliminary Results of Environmental Review D.C. Cook Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2

Nuclear Regulatory Commission November 9, 2004



Purpose of Today's Meeting

- Discuss NRC's license renewal process
- Describe the environmental review process
- Discuss the results of our review
- Provide the review schedule
- Accept any comments you may have today
- Describe how to submit comments



D.C. Cook Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2 License Renewal

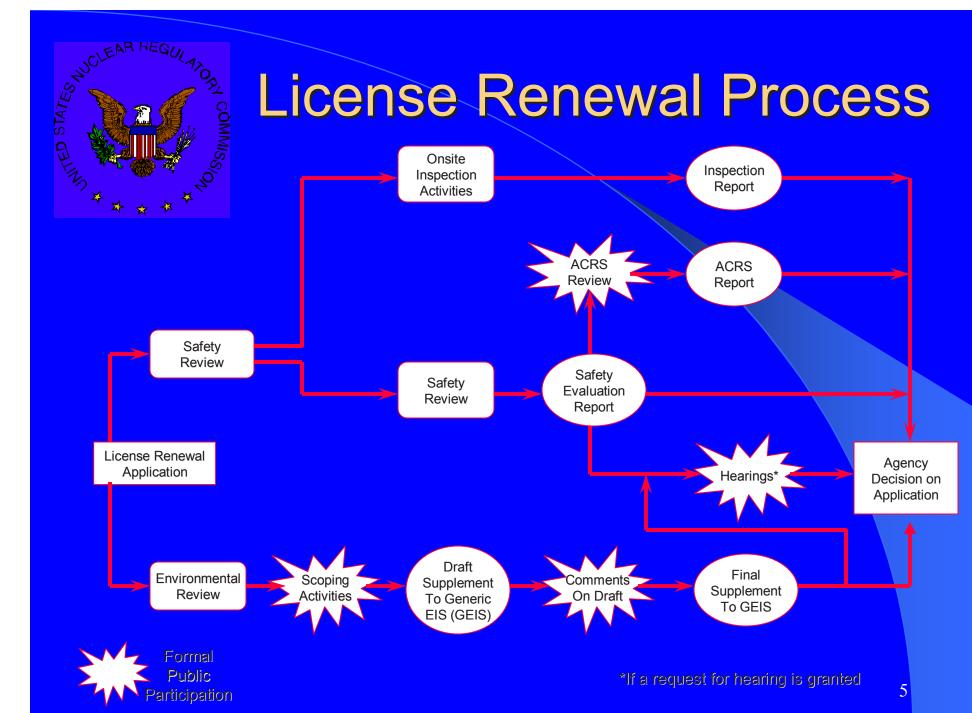
> Operating licenses expire
> October 2014 for Unit 1
> December 2017 for Unit 2
> Application requests authorization to operate D.C. Cook Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2 for up to an additional 20 years



NRC's License Renewal Review

Safety review
 Safety evaluation
 Plant inspections
 Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS)
 Environmental review

License Renewal Process





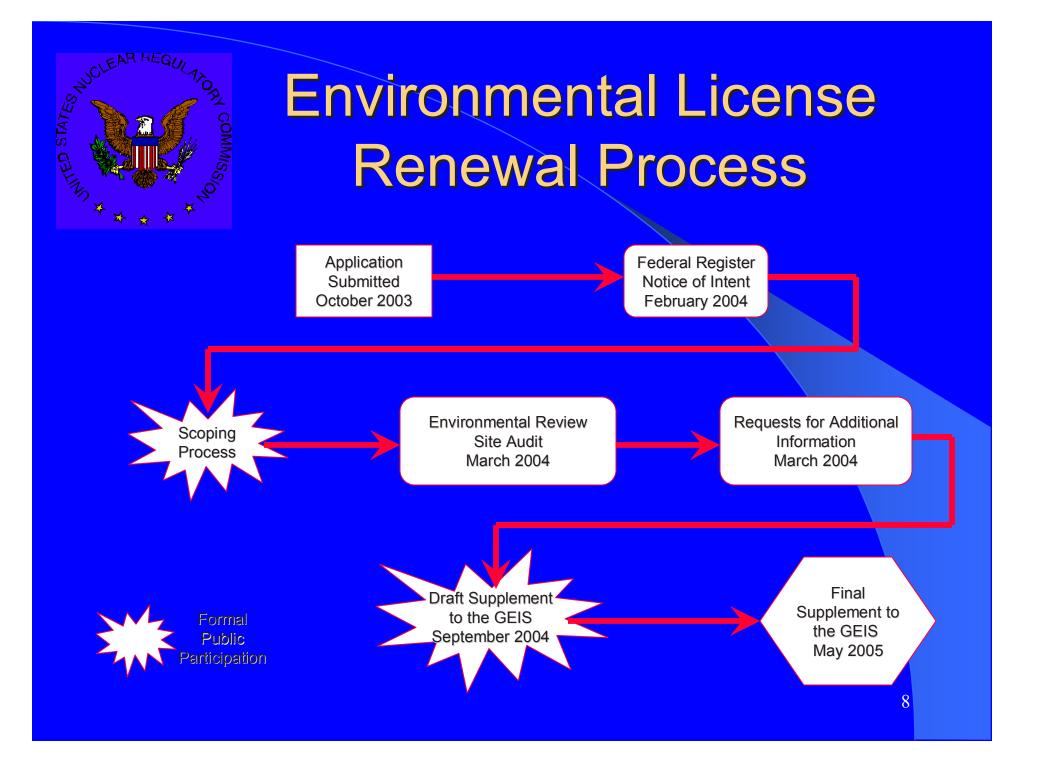
National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

- NEPA requires Federal agencies to use a systematic approach to consider environmental impacts
- Commission has determined that an environmental impact statement will be prepared for a license renewal action



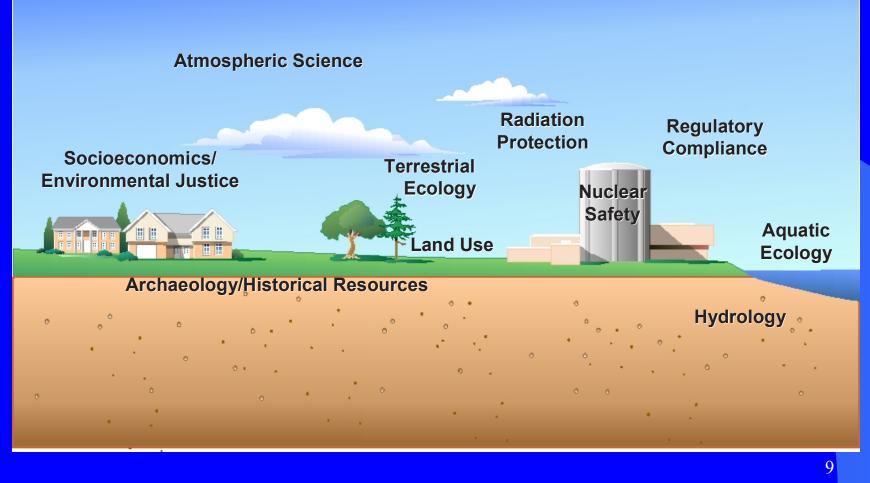
Decision Standard for Environmental Review

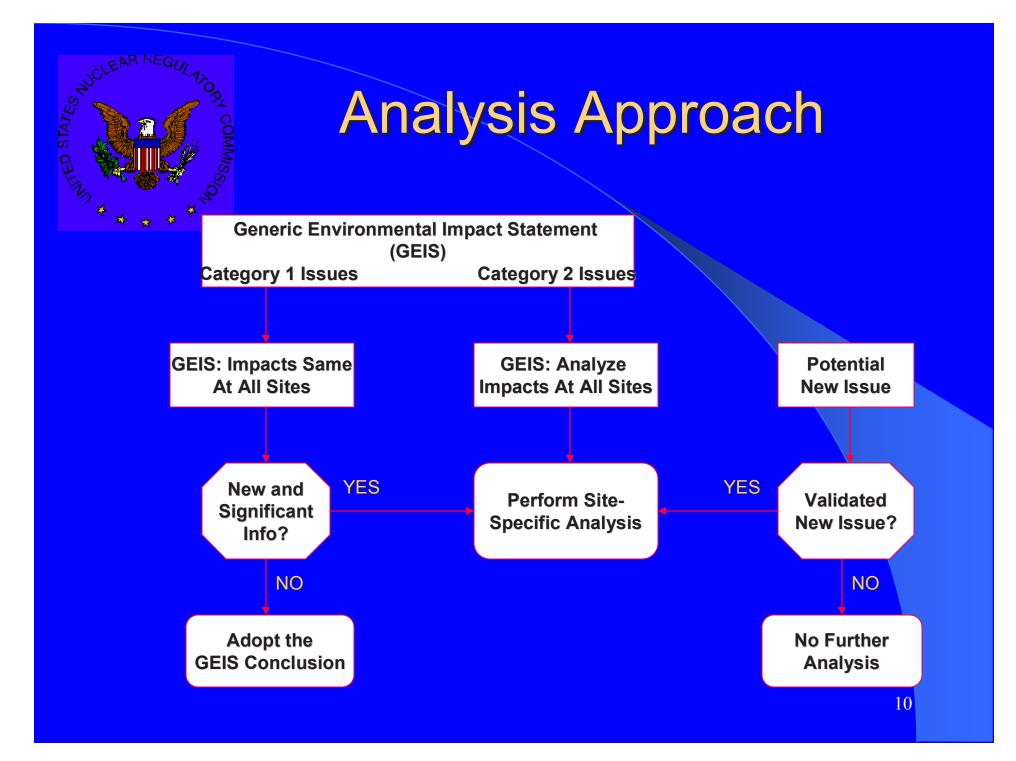
To determine whether or not the adverse environmental impacts of license renewal for D.C. Cook Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2 are so great that preserving the option of license renewal for energy planning decisionmakers would be unreasonable.





Team Expertise



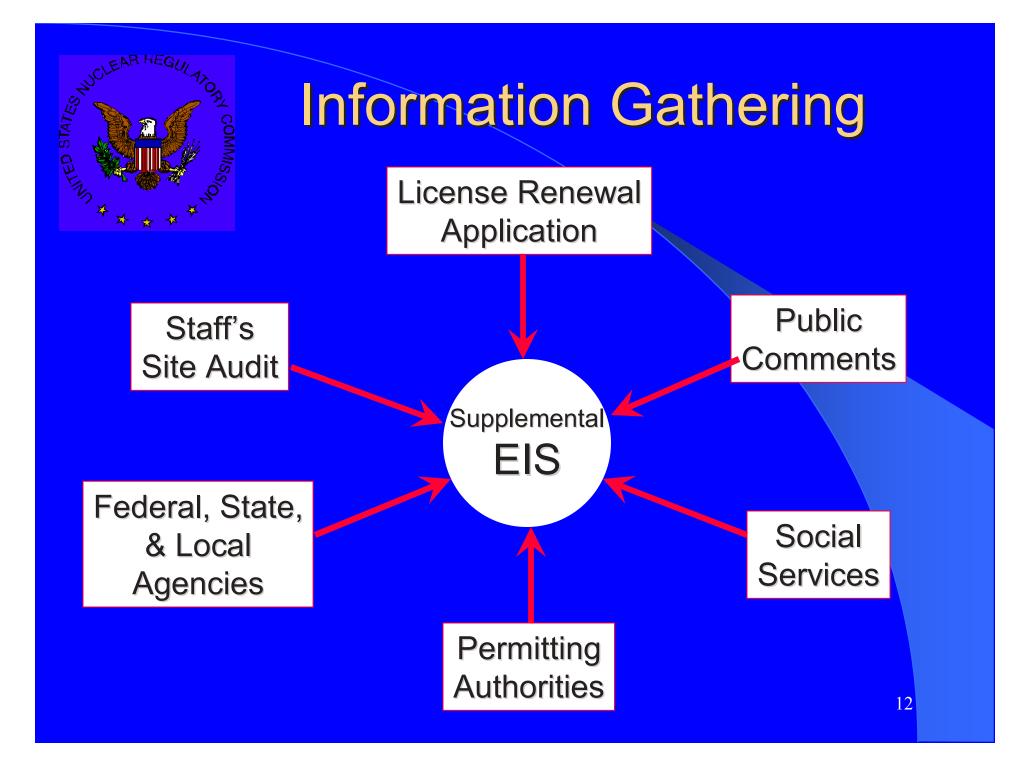




How Impacts are Quantified

> NRC-defined impact levels:

- SMALL: Effect is not detectable or too small to destabilize or noticeably alter any important attribute of the resource
- MODERATE: Effect is sufficient to alter noticeably, but not destabilize important attributes of the resource
- LARGE: Effect is clearly noticeable and sufficient to destabilize important attributes of the resource
- Consistent with the Council on Environmental Quality guidance for NEPA analyses





Environmental Impacts of Continued Operation

- Cooling System
- Transmission Lines
- Radiological
- Socioeconomic
- Groundwater Use and Quality
- > Threatened or Endangered Species
- Cumulative Impacts
- Accidents



Cooling System Impacts

Category 2 Issues Entrainment of Fish and Shellfish in Early Life Stages Impingement of Fish and Shellfish Heat Shock Preliminary findings Impacts are SMALL No additional mitigation required



Radiological Impacts of Normal Operations

Category 1 issues
Radiation exposures to the public
Occupational radiation exposures

Preliminary findings
 No new and significant information identified
 GEIS concluded impacts are SMALL



Threatened or Endangered Species

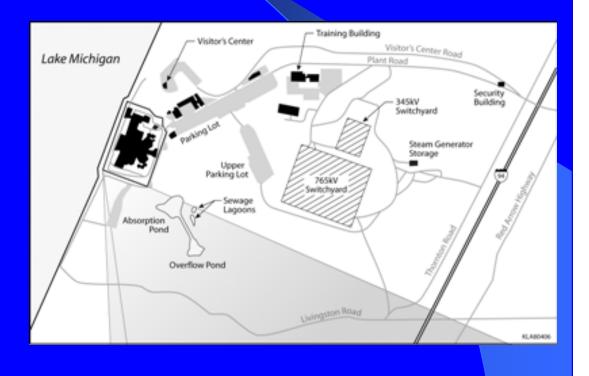
Aquatic Mussels	Animals	Insects and Plants
 white cat's paw pearlymussel northern riffleshell clubshell 	 Indiana bat bald eagle piping plover Copperbelly water snake 	 Karner blue butterfly Mitchell's satyr Pitcher's thistle small whorled pogonia

Preliminary findings: Impacts are SMALL No additional mitigation required



Impacts to Groundwater Quality

- Process wastewater and sanitary wastes are discharged to onsite absorption ponds and sewage lagoons
- > Preliminary findings
 - Impacts are SMALL
 - No additional mitigation required





Cumulative Impacts of Operation

- Considered impacts of renewal term operations combined with other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions
- Evaluated to end of 20-year renewal term
- No significant cumulative impacts



Other Environmental Impacts Evaluated

Uranium Fuel Cycle and Solid Waste Management

> Decommissioning



Alternatives

- > No-action
- > Alternative energy sources
 - New generation (Coal, Natural Gas, Nuclear)
 - Purchased electrical power
 - Other alternatives (Oil, Wind, Solar, Conservation)
 - Combination of alternatives
- Environmental effects of alternatives in at least some impact categories reach MODERATE or LARGE significance



Preliminary Conclusions

- > GEIS Conclusions on Category 1 issues adopted.
- Impacts resulting from Category 2 issues are of SMALL significance.
- Impacts to groundwater quality resulting from onsite disposal of process wastewater and sanitary wastewater would be SMALL.
- Environmental effects of alternatives may reach MODERATE or LARGE significance.



Postulated Accidents

Design-basis accidents

Severe accidents

Severe accident mitigation alternatives (SAMAs)



SAMA Evaluation Process

- Characterize overall plant risk
- Identify potential improvements
- Quantify risk reduction potential and implementation costs
- Determine whether implementation of any of the improvements is required to support license renewal



Preliminary Results of SAMA Evaluation

- 194 candidate improvements considered
- Set reduced to 72 by multi-step screening process
- > Detailed cost/benefit analysis
 - Identified 16 SAMAs
 - Grouped into 5 areas of risk reduction



Preliminary Results of SAMA Evaluation

Potential cost-beneficial SAMAs not related to managing the effects of aging

Not required to be implemented as part of license renewal



Conclusions

- Impacts of license renewal are SMALL for all impact areas.
- Impacts of alternatives range from SMALL to LARGE.
- The staff's preliminary recommendation is that the adverse environmental impacts of license renewal for D.C. Cook Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2 are not so great that preserving the option of license renewal for energy planning decisionmakers would be unreasonable.



Environmental Review Milestones

➤ Draft EIS issued – 9/24/04

Comment period – 9/24/2004 to 12/08/04

Issuance of Final EIS – May 2005



Point of Contact and Reference Documents

- NRC contact: Bill Dam
 (800) 368-5642, Ext. 4014
- Documents located at local libraries
 - Bridgman Library
 - Maud Preston Palenske Memorial Library
- Draft SEIS can also be viewed at the NRC's Web site (www.nrc.gov) at: www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doccollections/nuregs/staff/sr1437/supplement20/



Submitting Comments

 By mail: Chief, Rules and Directives Branch Division of Administrative Services Mailstop T-6D59 U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
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