



# Environmental Scoping Meeting Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station

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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory  
Commission

June 7, 2006





# Purpose of Today's Meeting

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- Discuss NRC's license renewal process
- Describe the environmental review process
- Identify environmental areas that the staff typically evaluates
- Provide the review schedule
- Accept any comments you may have today
- Describe how to submit comments



# NRC's Regulatory Oversight

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- Atomic Energy Act
  - Issue operating licenses
  - Regulate civilian use of nuclear materials
- NRC's mission
- Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations



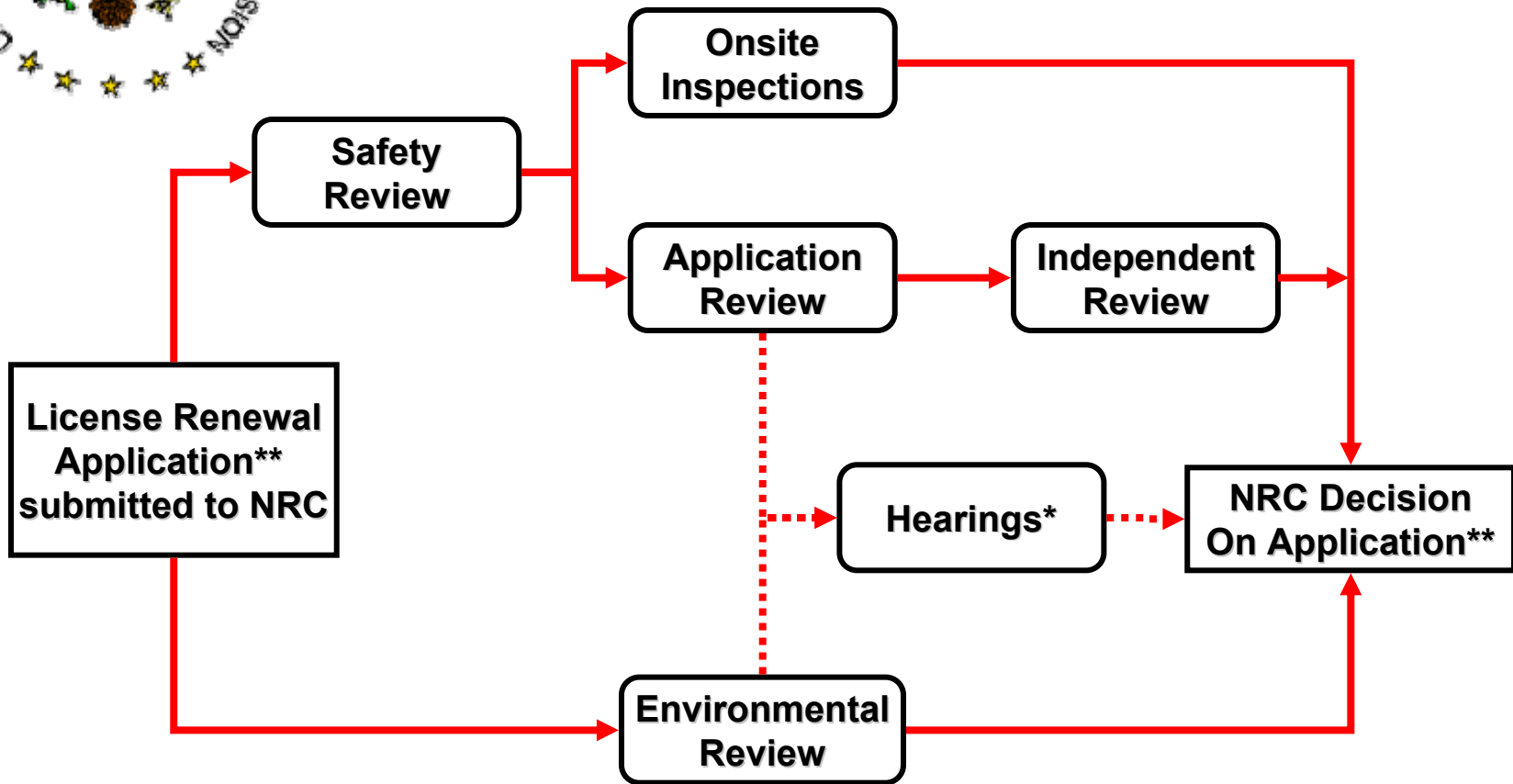
# Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station, License Renewal

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- Current operating license expires on  
March 21, 2012
- Application requests authorization to  
operate the plant for an additional 20  
years



# License Renewal Process



\* If a Request for Hearing is Granted

\*\* Available at [www.nrc.gov](http://www.nrc.gov)



# License Renewal Safety Review

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## ➤ Principles

- Existing regulatory processes are adequate for ensuring safety of operating plants
- Current licensing basis is adequate and carries forward into period of extended operation



# Scope of License Renewal Safety Review

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- Limited to Aging Management
  - Systems, structures and components important to safety
  - Determined by license renewal scoping criteria
- Does Not Include Oversight of Current Issues
  - Security
  - Emergency Planning
  - Safety Performance



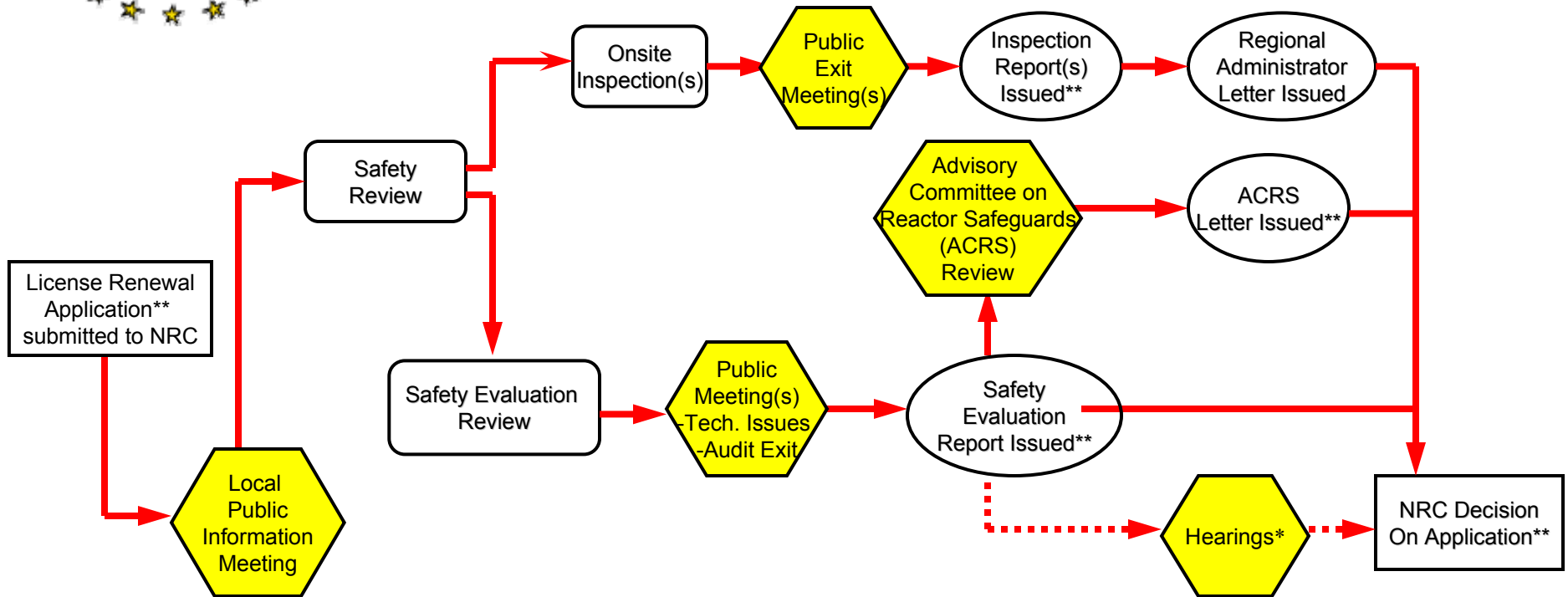
# Components of the Safety Review

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- Safety Evaluation
    - Audits
    - Evaluation of Technical Information
  - Plant Inspections
  - Independent Review
    - Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards





# Safety Review Process



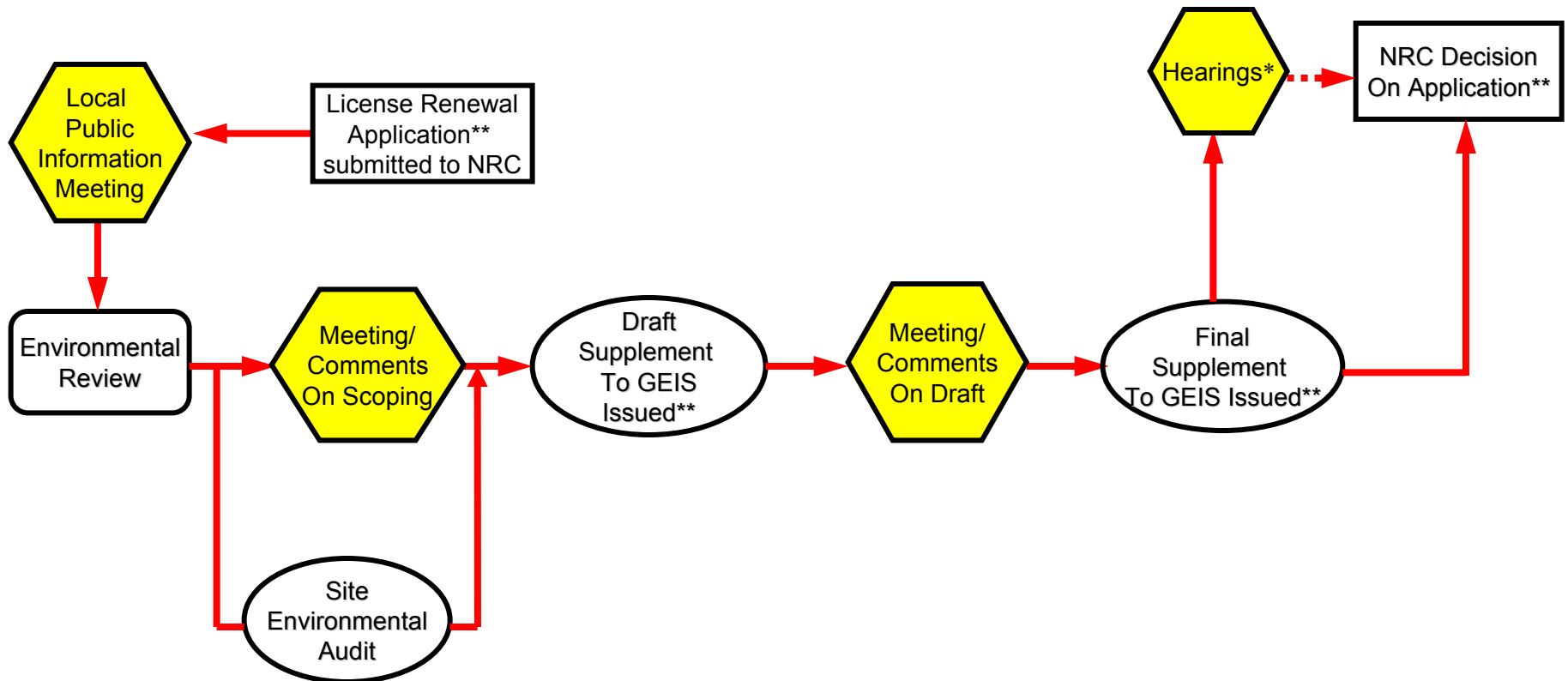
● Opportunities for Public Interaction

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# Environmental Review Process



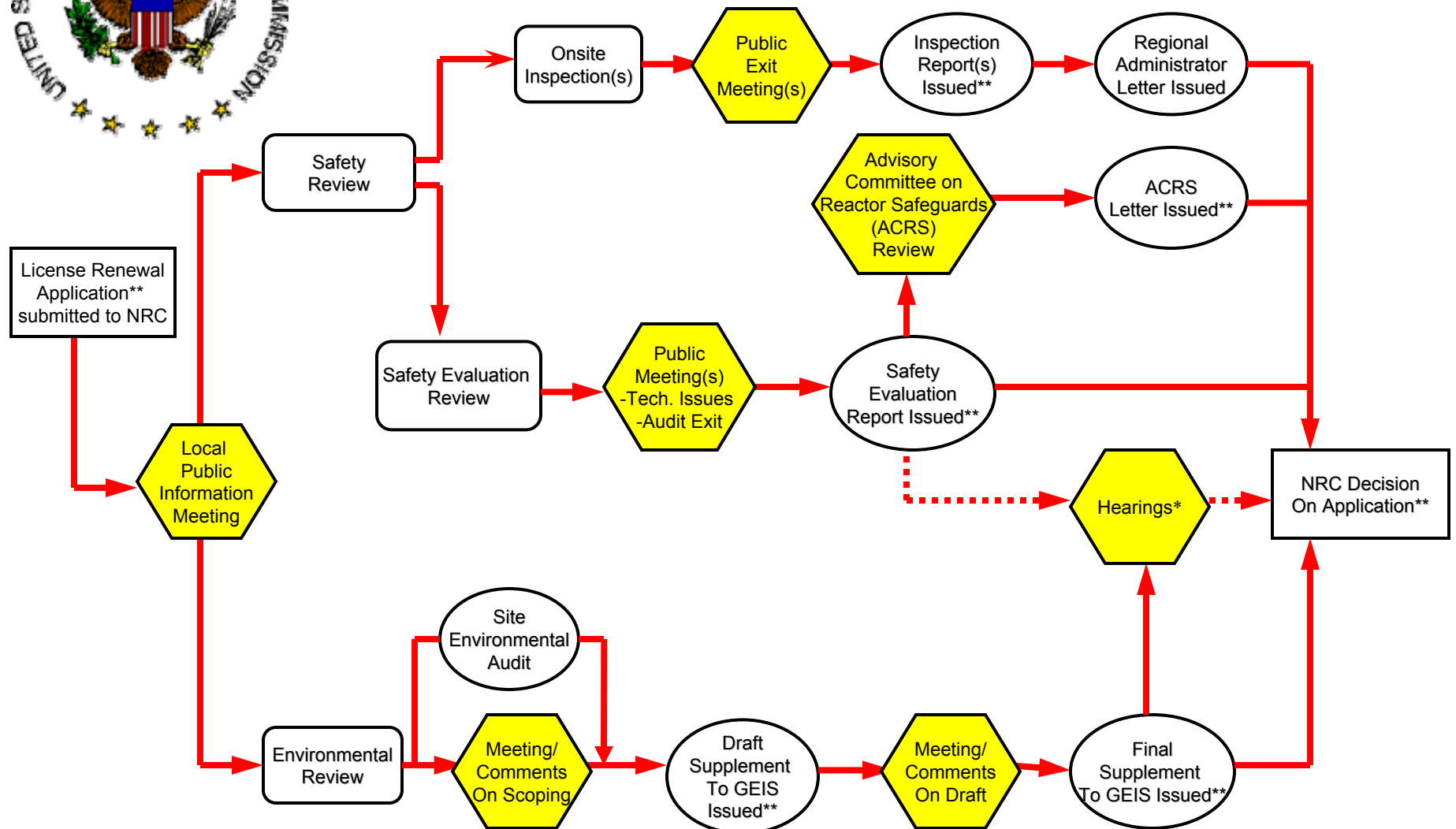
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# License Renewal Process



● Opportunities for Public Interaction

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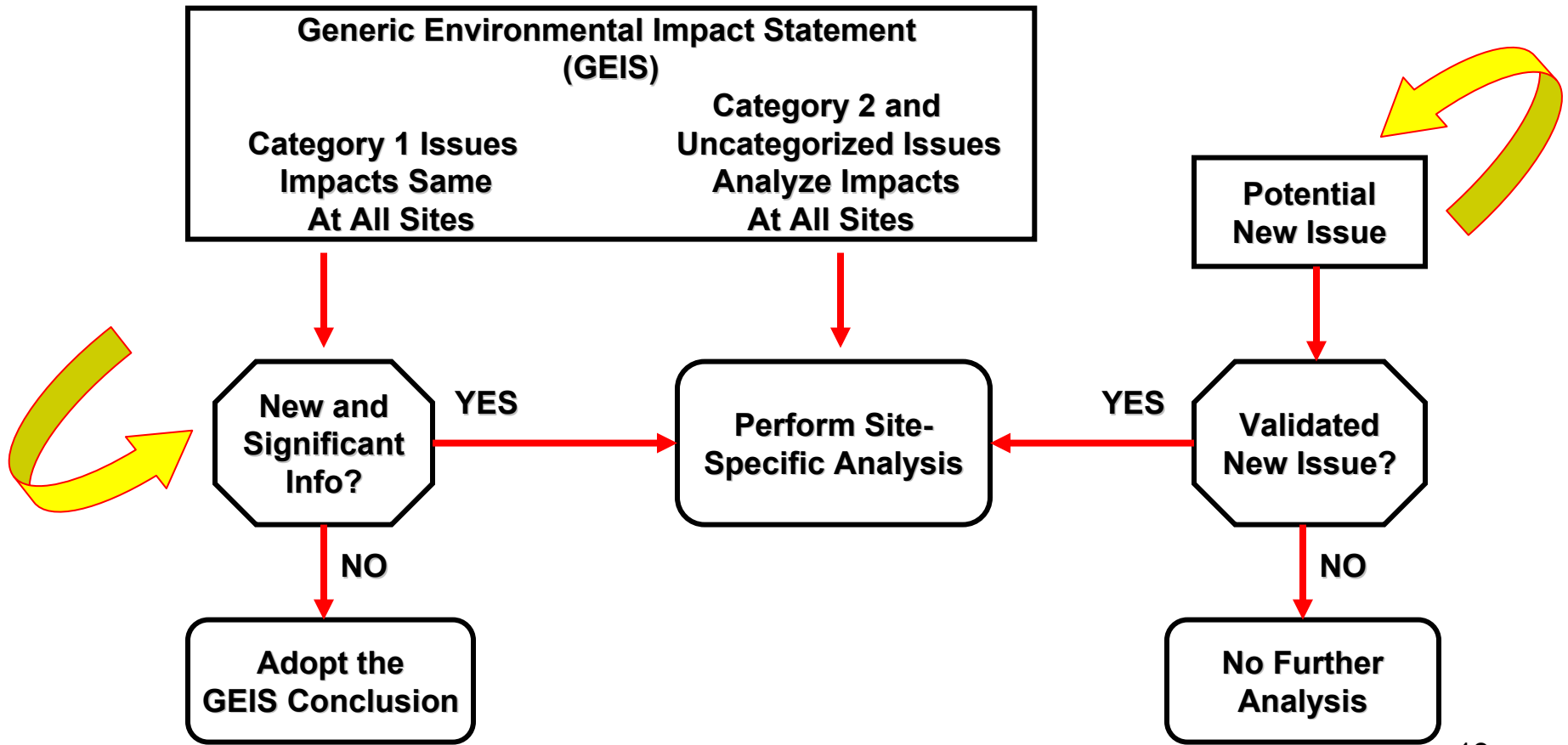
# National Environmental Policy Act

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- 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.
- Commission has determined that a supplement to the "Generic EIS for License Renewal of Nuclear Plants" will be prepared for a license renewal application.



# Analysis Approach





# Decision Standard for Environmental Review

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To determine whether or not the adverse environmental impacts of license renewal for Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Station are so great that preserving the option of license renewal for energy planning decisionmakers would be unreasonable.

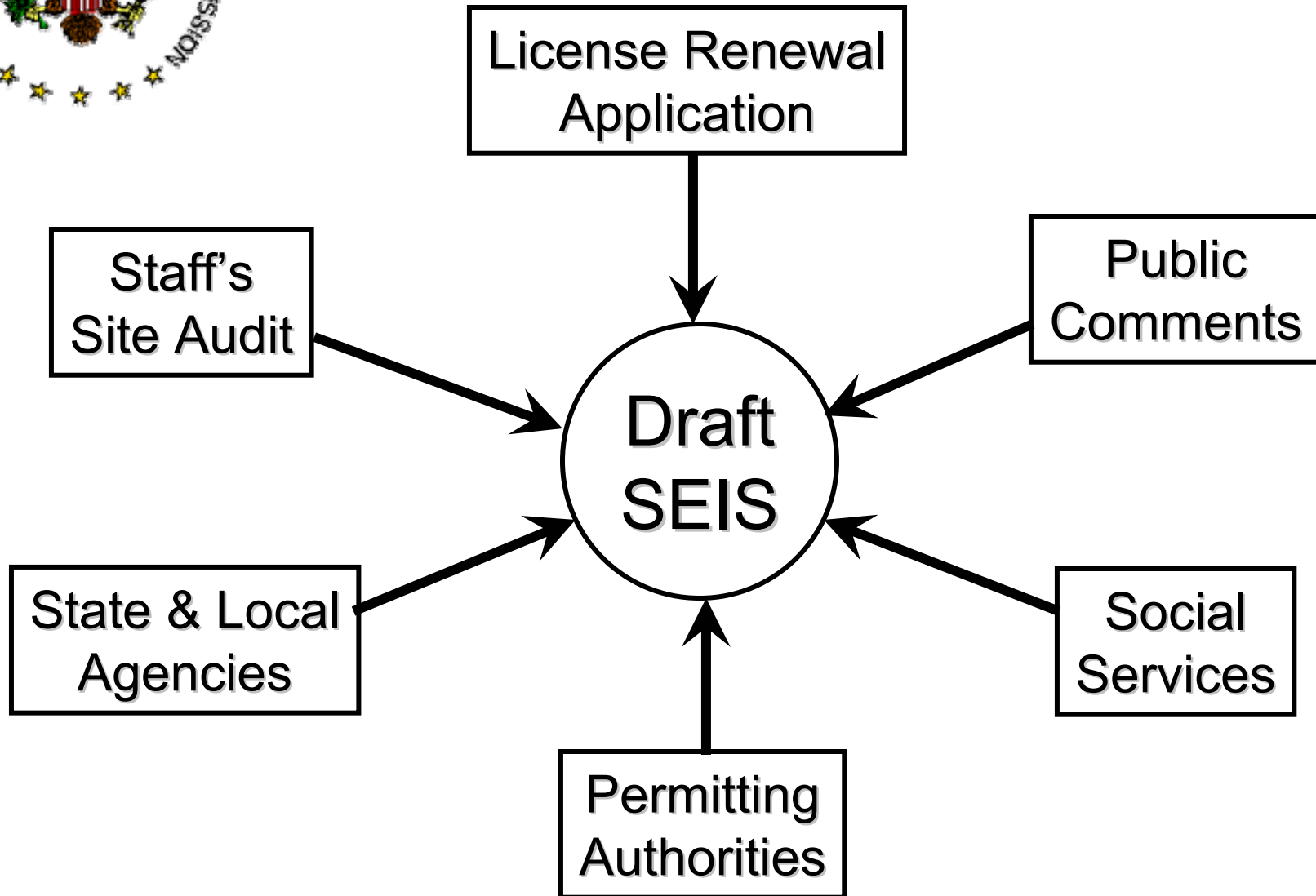


# Environmental Review Process for License Renewal

- Application Received January 27, 2006
- Notice of Intent April 21, 2006
- Site Audit May 22-26, 2006
- **Scoping Public Meeting June 07, 2006**
- **Scoping Comments Due June 23, 2006**
- Scoping Summary Report August 2006
- Draft SEIS December 2006
- **Draft SEIS Public Meeting January 2007**
- **Draft SEIS Comments Due March 2007**
- Final SEIS August 2007



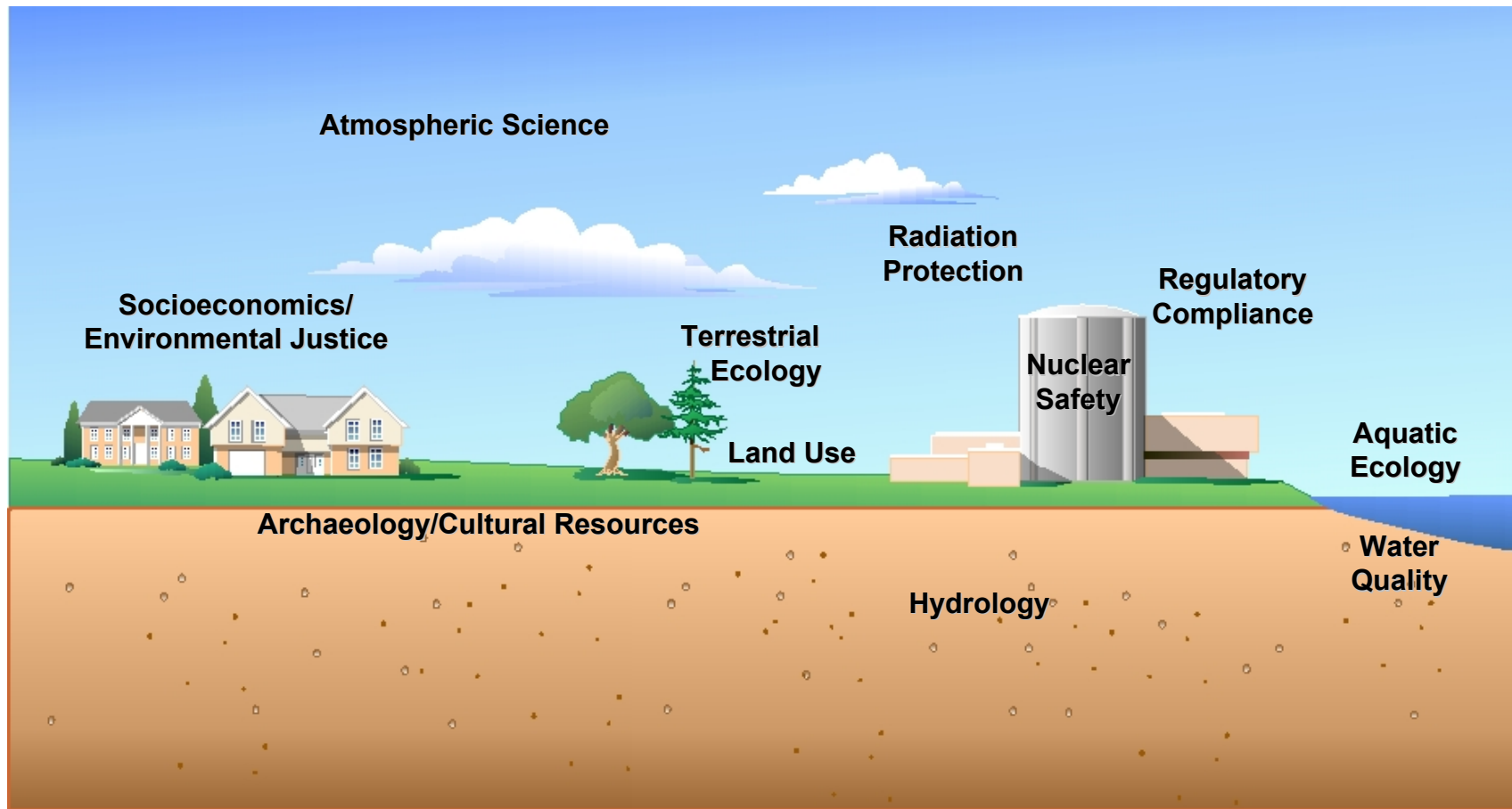
# Information Gathering







# Team Expertise





# Additional Information

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➤ Agency point of contact:

Richard L. Emch, Jr.

(800) 368-5642, ext. 1590

➤ Documents located at:

- Vernon Free Library, 567 Governor Hunt Rd, Vernon, VT
- Brooks Memorial Library, 224 Main St, Brattleboro, VT
- Hinsdale Public Library, 122 Brattleboro Rd, Hinsdale, NH
- Dickinson Memorial Library, 115 Main St, Northfield, MA

➤ Documents can also be viewed at the NRC's Web site ([www.nrc.gov](http://www.nrc.gov))



# Submitting Comments

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## Provide written comments:

- By mail: Chief, Rules and Directives Branch  
Division of Administrative Services  
Mailstop T-6D59  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555
- E-mail: [VermontYankeeEIS@nrc.gov](mailto:VermontYankeeEIS@nrc.gov)
- In person: 11545 Rockville Pike  
Rockville, Maryland

Comments should be submitted by June 23, 2006.

