

B/S

Government to Government Licensing Interactions: License Renewal



U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
April 11, 2005



Presentation Objectives

- Discuss NRC's statutory and regulatory framework
- Discuss NRC's license renewal process
 - Describe the safety review process
 - Describe the environmental review process
- Describe opportunities for public participation
- Describe typical application review schedule



Atomic Energy Act

- Authorizes NRC to regulate the civilian use of nuclear material
- Authorizes NRC to grant and renew licenses
- NRC's License Renewal Rule at 10 CFR Part 54



National Environmental Policy Act

- Requires Federal agencies to use systematic approach to consider environmental impacts
- Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) required for major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment and Commission determined that supplement to Generic EIS for License Renewal (NUREG-1437) will be prepared for license renewal applications
- NRC's Environmental Protection Rule at 10 CFR Part 51



NRC's License Renewal Review

- Safety Review
- Plant Audits and Inspections
- Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS)
- Environmental Review and Audit



Principles of License Renewal

- Regulatory process adequate for ensuring safety of operating plants
- Current licensing basis adequate and carries forward into period of extended operation
- Safety focus is on aging management programs and long-lived passive components
- Environmental focus is on refurbishment and operational impacts during renewal period



Decision Standard for Safety Review

To determine whether:

- (1) applicant adequately considered the effects of aging during the period of extended operation on the functionality of passive, long-lived structures and components, and
- (2) applicant adequately performed time-limited aging analyses.

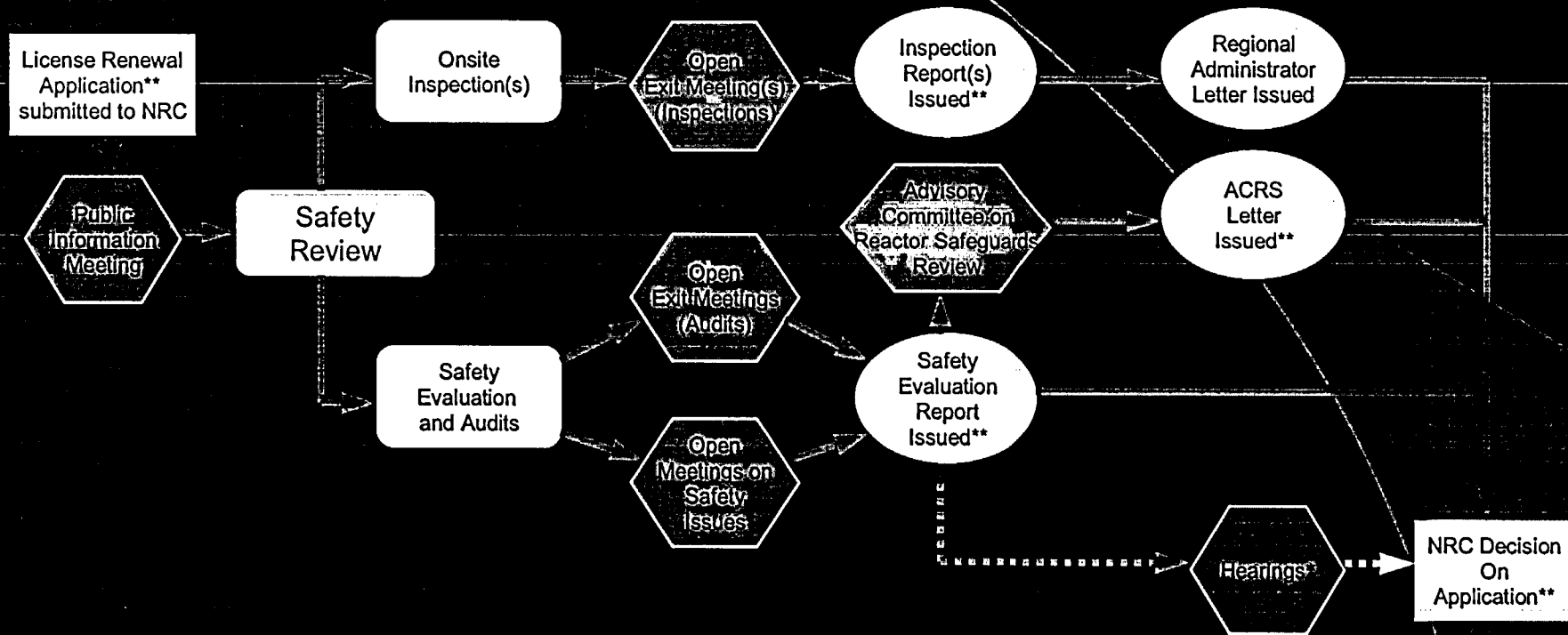


Decision Standard for Environmental Review

To determine whether:

the adverse environmental impacts of license renewal for the facility are so great that preserving the option of license renewal for energy planning decisionmakers would be unreasonable.

License Renewal Process: Safety Review



* If a request for hearing is granted
 ** Available at www.nrc.gov

License Renewal Process: Environmental Review



License Renewal Application** submitted to NRC

Public Information Meeting

Environmental Review

Scoping Process

Environmental Analyses and Onsite Audit

Local, State, Tribal, and Federal Government Officials

Public Meetings on Scoping

Draft Supplement To GEIS Issued**

Local, State, Tribal, and Federal Government Officials

Public Meetings on Draft

Hearings*

Final Supplement To GEIS Issued**

NRC Decision On Application**

* If a request for hearing is granted
 ** Available at www.nrc.gov



Application Milestones

Notices of Receipt and Availability, Acceptance and Sufficiency Reviews, and Opportunity for Hearing	30-60 days
Notice for Scoping and Preparation of Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)	60-90 days
Environmental Audit and Scoping Meeting	90-120 days
Safety Audits, Inspections, and Exit Meetings	120-240 days
Draft EIS issued for Public Comment and Public Meeting	240-300 days
Draft Safety Evaluation Report (SER) Issued	360-420 days
Final EIS issued	500-550 days
Final SER issued	500-550 days
Meetings with Subcommittee and Full Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards	520-600 days
Final Decision	600-900 days



Further Information

- Specific schedule and milestones for each application listed at:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/licensing/renewal/applications.html>

- Specific schedule for open and public meetings listed at:

<http://www.nrc.gov/public-involve/public-meetings/index.cfm>