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Nuclear Power Plant License Renewal Process Overview



NRC Regulatory Oversight

NRC's governing statutes – Atomic Energy Act

- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

►NRC's mission

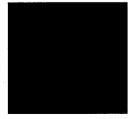
- Protect public health and safety
- Promote common defense and security
- Protect environment



License Renewal Review

Safety review

- Focus is on the effects of aging of components and structures important to plant safety
- Review to determine if aging effects will be effectively managed
- Environmental review
 - Considers, analyzes, and discloses environmental impacts of continued plant operation for an additional 20 years
 - Review to determine if the environmental impacts of license renewal are so great that license renewal would be unreasonable





Ongoing Regulatory Oversight

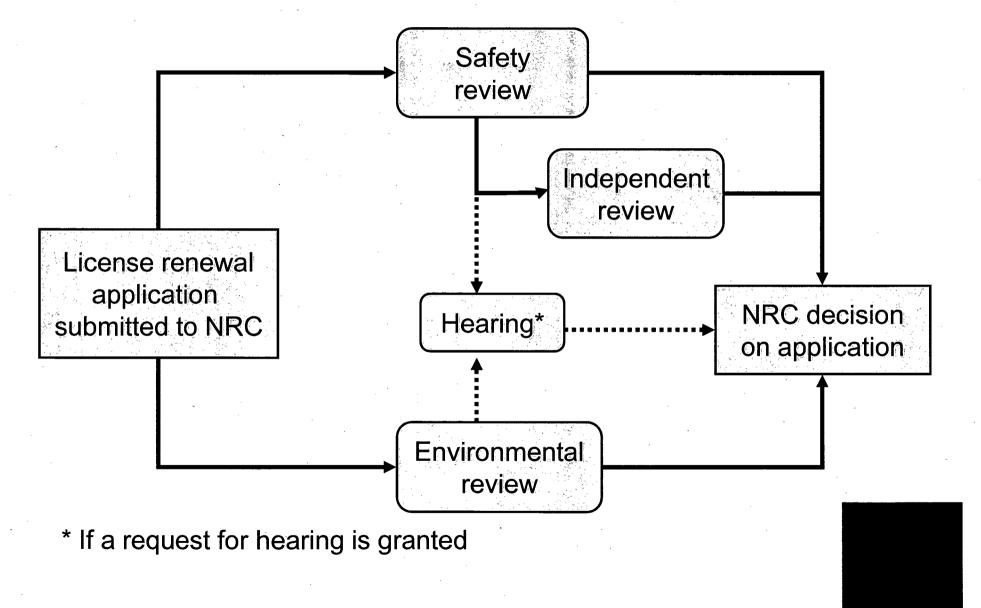
Emergency planning – 10 CFR 50.47

- > Security
 - 10 CFR Part 73
- Current safety performance





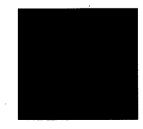
License Renewal Process





License Renewal Safety Principles

- The ongoing regulatory process is adequate to ensure the safety of all currently operating plants
- The same plant licensing basis continues during the renewal term
 - With additional requirement for aging management





Safety Review (10 CFR Part 54)

Safety review by NRC staff

- Review application and supporting documentation
- On-site audits
- Issue Safety Evaluation Report
- >On-site inspections by NRC staff
- Independent review by Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS)



Environmental Review (10 CFR Part 51)

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

 Informs federal decision making
 Public disclosure of environmental impacts

 NRC's environmental regulations

 10 CFR Part 51

 NRC prepares Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)



Typical Milestones

- Receive license renewal application (Month 0)
- Publish Notice of Opportunity for Hearing (Month 2)
- Conduct Environmental Scoping meeting (Month 3)
- Conduct Draft Environmental Impact Statement meeting (Month 12)
- Issue Safety Evaluation Report, identifying open items (Month 13)
- Issue Safety Evaluation Report and Environmental Impact Statement (Month 18)
- Complete Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards safety review (Month 20)





Opportunities for Public Involvement

- > Opportunity for hearing
- License renewal process overview meeting
- Environmental Scoping meeting
- Draft Environmental Impact Statement meeting
- Safety review meeting (if needed)
- > Inspection results meeting
- Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards meeting on safety review





Final Agency Decision

Commission considers

- Safety review conclusions
- Environmental Impact Statement
- License renewal inspection conclusions
- Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards recommendations
- Hearing process outcome, if hearing is conducted
- > Typical license renewal decision
 - 22 months, without hearing
 - 30 months, if hearing is conducted