

U.S. NRC

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Protecting People and the Environment

Public Outreach Meeting South Texas Project Units 3 & 4 Combined License Application

Jim Lyons, Director
Division of Site and Environmental Review

Tom Bergman, Deputy Director
Licensing Operations
Division of New Reactor Licensing

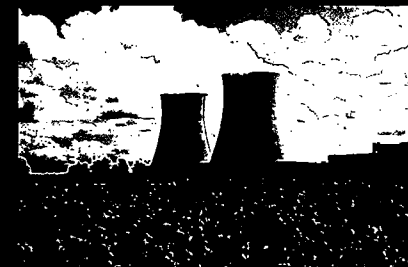
Purposes of this meeting

- Talk with you about combined licenses that may eventually authorize construction of new nuclear power plants
- Explain what the NRC does during the review of a combined license application
- Describe how you can participate in the regulatory process

Nuclear Regulatory Commission

- Mission: to protect the public health and safety, promote the common defense and security, and protect the environment
- Independent Agency
 - Five Commissioners
 - Staff of technical and regulatory experts in many fields
- Over 30 years of experience regulating operating reactors and other civilian use of nuclear materials
 - 104 operating reactors in the U.S.

Participants in NRC Licensing Process



NRC

- Commissioners
- Staff members
- Hearing Boards
- Advisory
Committee on
Reactor
Safeguards

Stakeholders

- Residents of the community
- Public interest groups
- Other Federal Agencies
- State entities
- Local officials
- Tribal officials, and others

License Applicant –
South Texas Project
Nuclear Operating
Company (STPNOC)



Combined License Application Review and Construction Inspection

- George Wunder, Senior Project Manager
 - Overall Combined License Application Review
- Allen Fetter, Project Manager
 - Environmental Review
- Rick Rasmussen, Branch Chief
 - Construction Inspection

Combined License

- What: Authorization from the NRC to construct and operate a nuclear power plant at a specific site and in accordance with law and regulations
- Who: STPNOC (operator of Units 1 & 2)
- When: STPNOC plans to submit application later this calendar year

NRC Staff's Role in the Review

- Evaluate whether application satisfies safety and environmental regulations and requirements
- Perform environmental review in accordance with National Environmental Policy Act and other statutes
- Make informed decisions based on the facts and compliance with U.S. law and NRC regulations
- Clearly document our safety and environmental findings
- Follow established procedures that allow public participation
- Maintain an open and transparent process

What the NRC will review

- Compliance with regulations to ensure public health and safety
 - Design of facility (ABWR design already reviewed and approved)
 - Site Suitability (environmental impact)
 - Means of construction
 - Quality assurance
 - Adequate physical security
 - Emergency preparedness (FEMA)
 - Operator Training

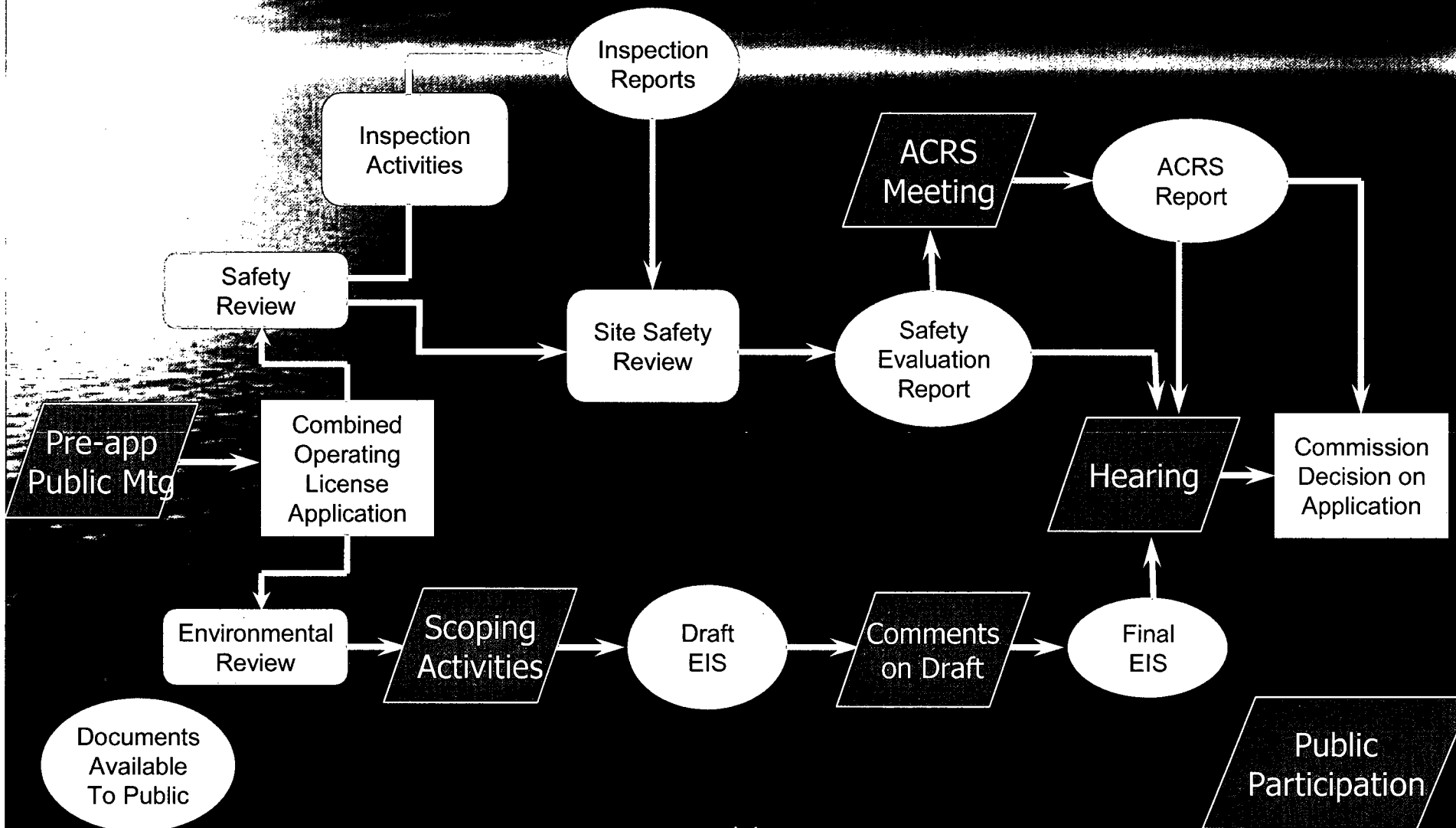
Public Participation in the License Application Review Process

- Obtain information at www.nrc.gov
 - NRC processes and how to participate
 - Publicly available information about the license application
- Attend and observe most meetings between the NRC and the applicant
- Comment on environmental review
- Attend and participate in Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards meetings
- Participate in the Hearing Process

The Hearing Process

- NRC issues a Notice of Hearing in the *Federal Register*, which offers an opportunity for the public to participate in the hearing as a party (called "intervention")
- A request (petition) to intervene must be filed within 60 days of the date of the Notice
- The requestor must state his or her interest that may be affected by granting the license, and at least one dispute with the application
- Three judges (an Atomic Safety and Licensing Board) will decide whether to grant intervention and conduct the hearing
- A person who did not seek to intervene or was not granted intervention may make a statement to the Board, although this statement is not evidence in the hearing
- Regulations governing intervention are in 10 C.F.R. § 2.309

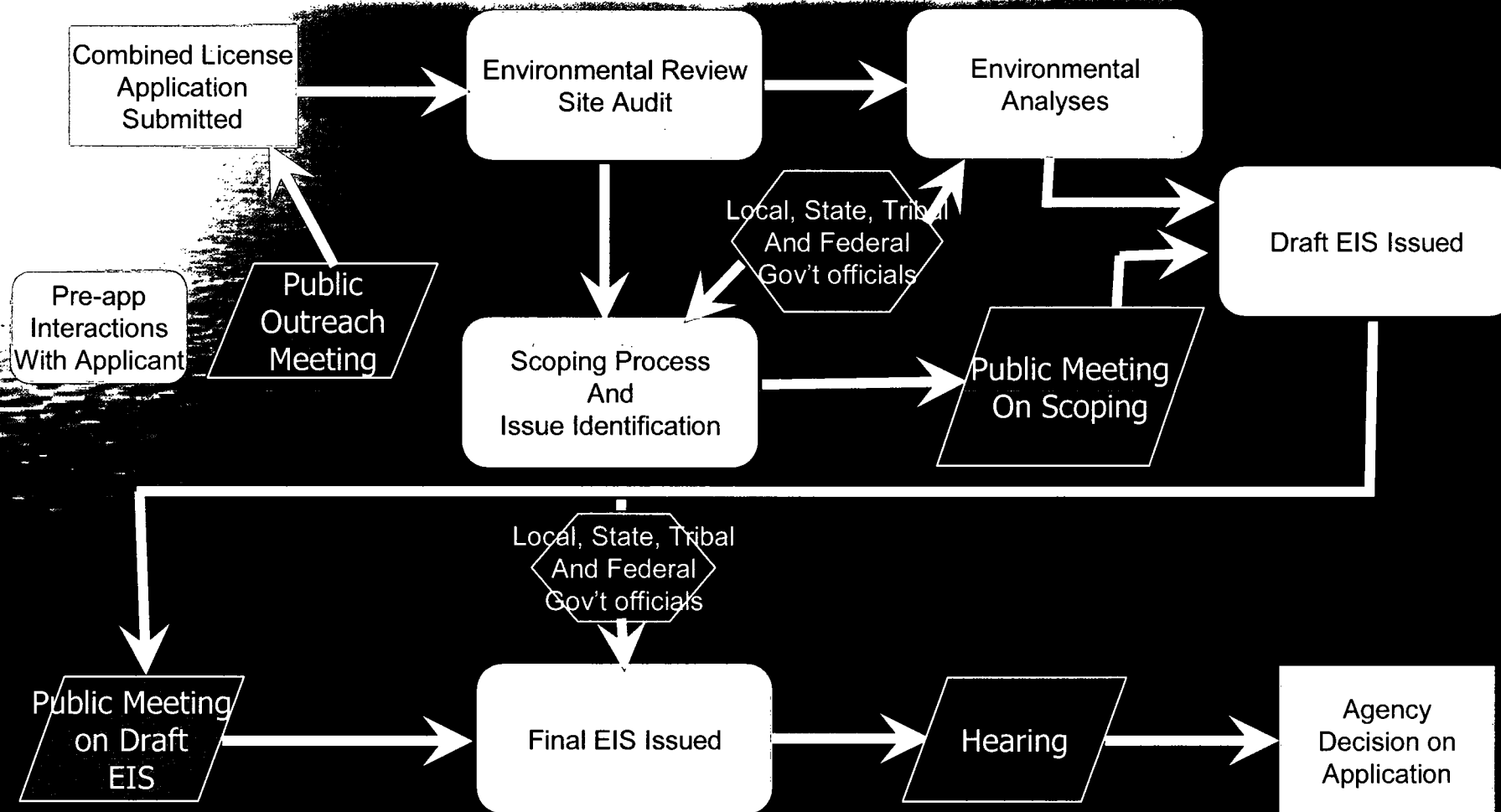
Combined License Application Review Process



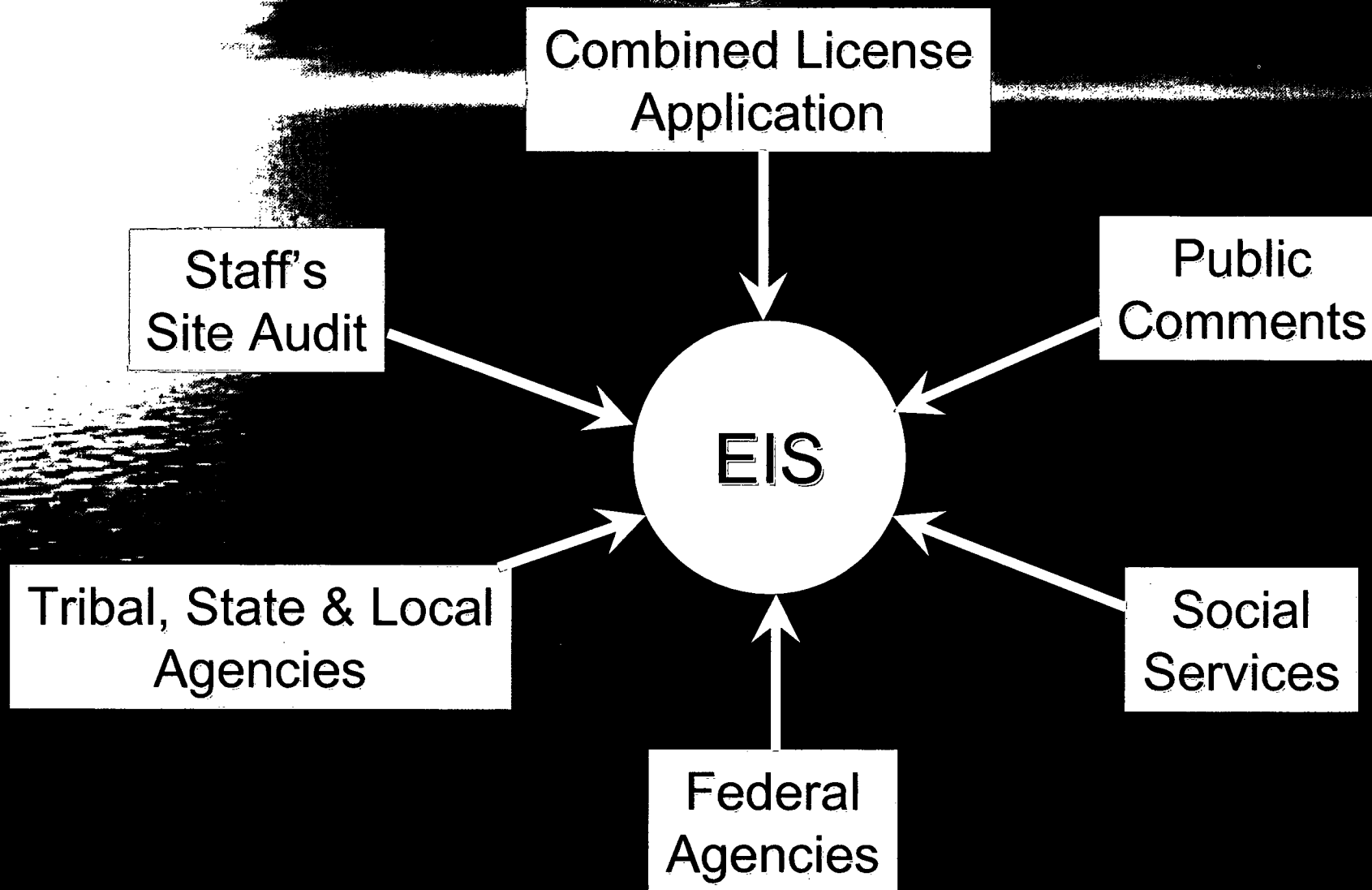
National Environmental Policy Act

- NEPA requires Federal agencies to use a systematic approach to consider environmental impacts
- An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is required for major Federal actions that may significantly affect the quality of the human environment
- Issuing a combined license is considered a major Federal action

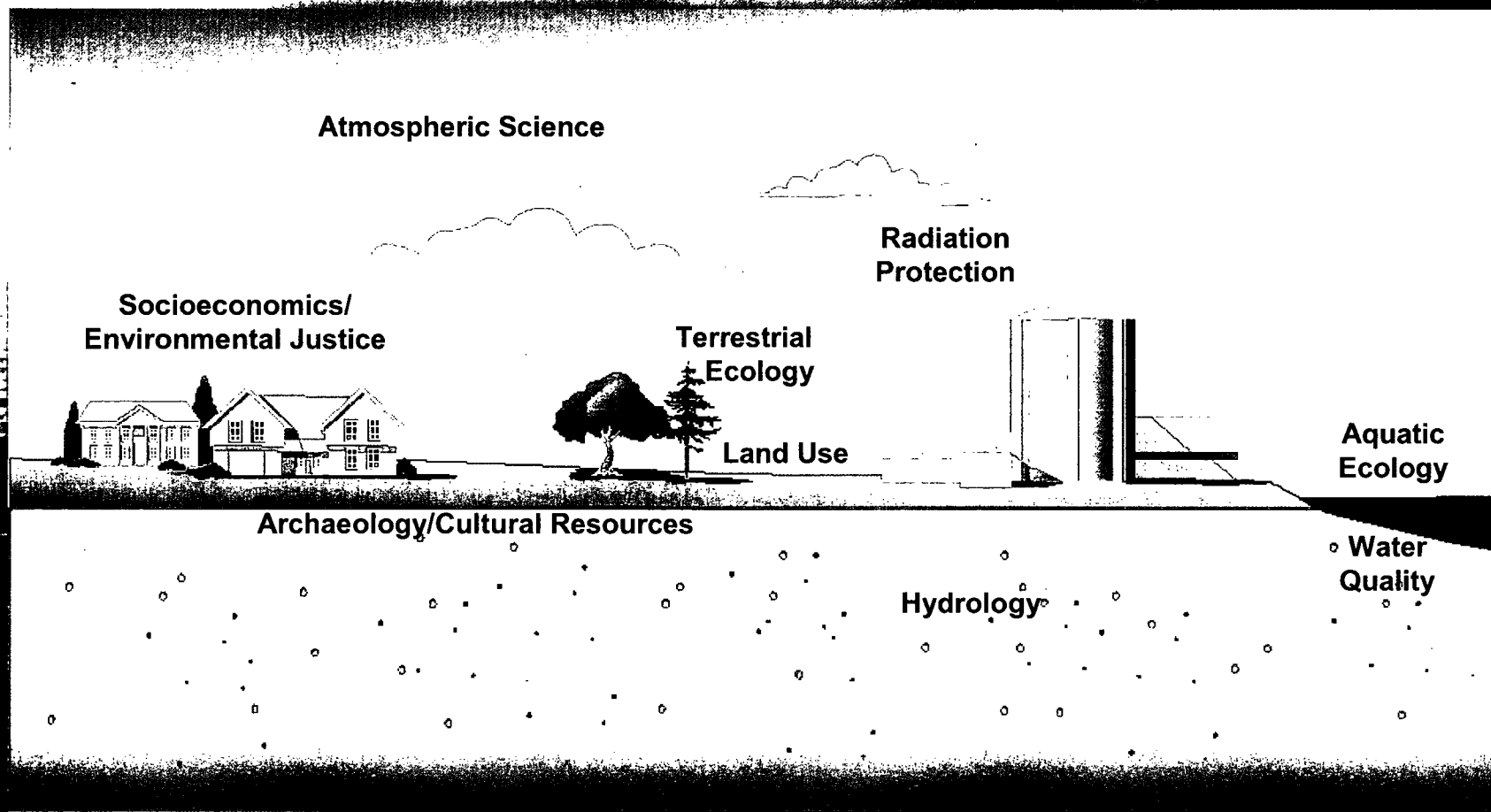
Environmental Review Process



Information Gathering



Environmental Review Team Expertise

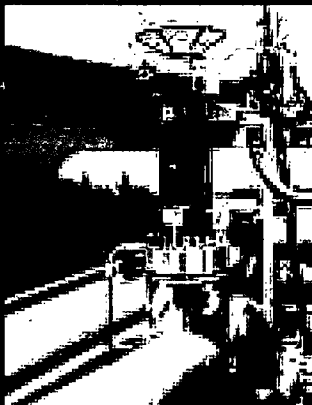


If the License is issued....

- The NRC authorizes the licensee to start construction of a nuclear power plant and to eventually operate it
 - Preparatory work that is not related to the nuclear safety-portion of the facility, such as clearing land and building access roads and other support facilities, may be permitted by other authorities such as the state and/or local municipality
- NRC staff will inspect nuclear safety-related construction activities
- NRC will verify that the plant is built as designed prior to operation (required by regulation)

NRC Construction Inspection Program

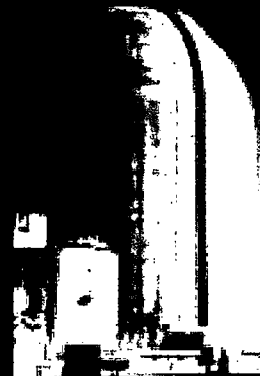
Vendor
Inspections



Quality
Assurance Engineering
Program



Operational
Program
Inspections



Inspection,
Tests, Analyses, and
Acceptance Criteria



ITAAC

- Inspections, Tests, Analyses, and Acceptance Criteria to confirm that the facility has been constructed and will be operated in conformity with the license
- Required to be submitted as part of the design certification and combined license applications
- Reviewed and approved by NRC staff in conjunction with the application

ITAAC Implementation

Licensees perform 100% of ITAAC verification during construction

NRC reviews all completed ITAAC and directly inspects a sample of ITAAC-related activities.

- Both the Licensee and NRC document ITAAC closure activities
- The regulations provide an opportunity to request a hearing based on ITAAC completion
- Prior to plant operation all ITAAC acceptance criteria must be met

NRC CONTACTS

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Acronyms

- ABWR – Advance Boiling Water Reactor
- ACRS – Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards
- COL – combined license
- COLA – combined license application
- DAC – design acceptance criteria
- DC – design certification
- DCD – design certification document
- DHS – Department of Homeland Security
- EIS – Environmental impact Statement
- ER – environmental report
- ESP – early site permit
- FEMA – Federal Emergency Management Agency
- GE – General Electric
- IAW – in accordance with
- ITAAC – inspections, tests, analyses, and acceptance criteria
- I&C – instrumentation and controls
- LWA – limited work authorization
- NRO – Office of New Reactors
- PM – project manager
- PRA – probabilistic risk assessment
- SE – safety evaluation
- SER – safety evaluation report
- STPNOC – South Texas Project Nuclear Operating Company
- QA – quality assurance