



# **Public Scoping Meeting Bell Bend Nuclear Power Plant Combined License Application Environmental Review**

**Robert Schaaf, Branch Chief  
Stacey Imboden, Project Manager  
Division of Site and Environmental Reviews**

**January 29, 2009**

# Purposes and Overview of this Meeting

- **Solicit your input to the environmental scoping process**
- **Discuss the combined license application review process**
- **Explain NRC's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process during review of a combined license application**
- **Present tentative schedule for environmental review**
- **Describe how you can participate in the regulatory process**

# Participants in NRC Licensing Process for Bell Bend Nuclear Power Plant



## NRC

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

## Stakeholders

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

## License Applicant

- PPL Bell Bend, LLC

# Relevant Laws & Regulations

**The NRC regulates civilian uses of nuclear materials  
to protect the public health and safety  
and the environment**

- **Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended**
- **National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969**
- **Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR),  
Parts 51 and 52**
- **Other laws and regulations**

# Combined License (COL)

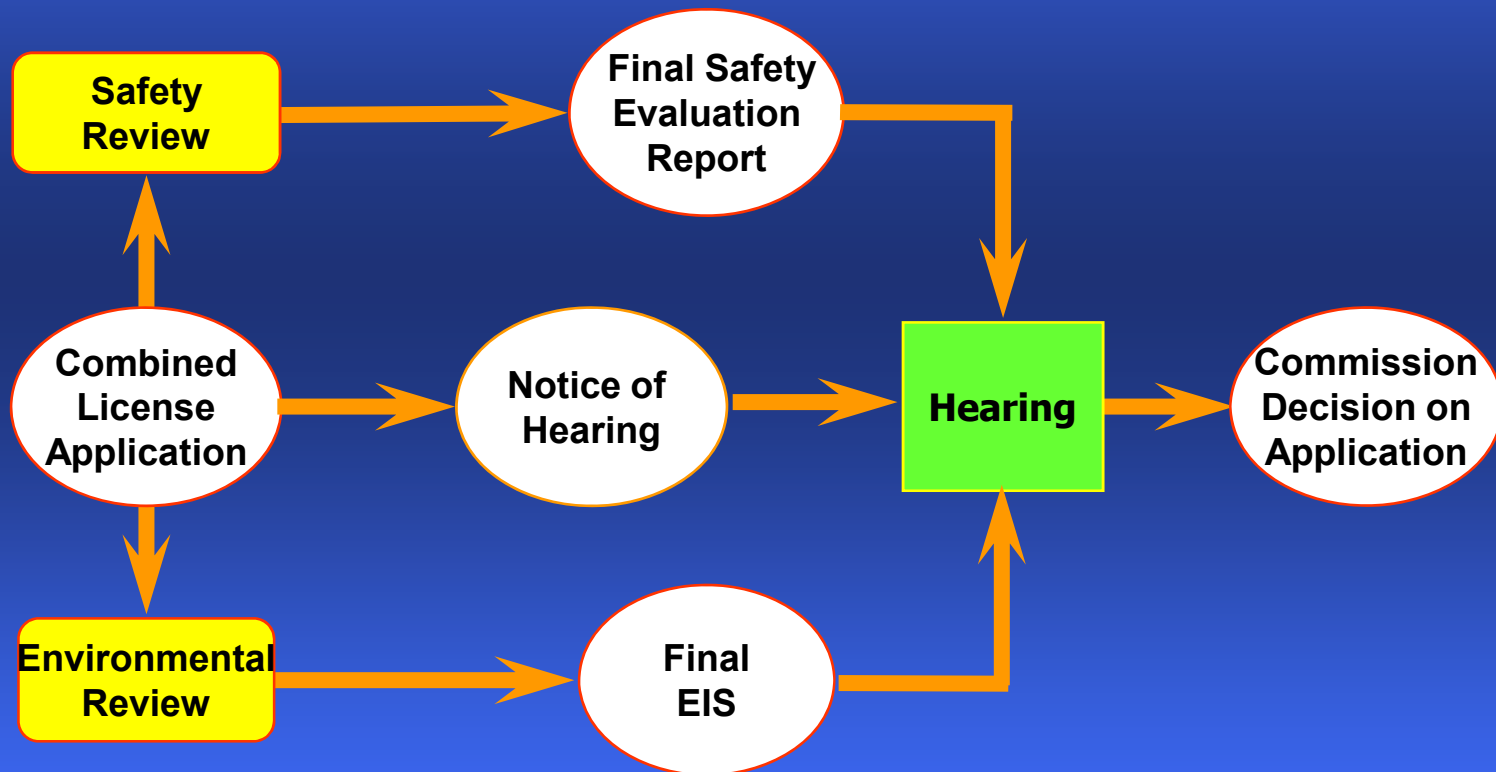
**Authorization from the NRC to construct and operate a nuclear power plant at a specific site and in accordance with applicable Federal laws and regulations**

- **PPL Bell Bend, LLC submitted an application for a COL for Bell Bend Nuclear Power Plant on October 10, 2008**
- **PPL Bell Bend, LLC's COL application includes the Environmental Report**

# Nuclear Reactor Design and COL Application Reviews

- **Standard Design Certification Review (ongoing)**
  - **AREVA's U.S. Evolutionary Power Reactor (EPR)**
  
- **COL Application Review**
  - **Safety Review for EPR design at the Bell Bend Nuclear Power Plant site**
  - **Environmental Review of potential impacts of construction and operation of Bell Bend Nuclear Power Plant, adjacent to the existing Susquehanna Steam Electric Station**

# Combined License Application Review Process



# National Environmental Policy Act

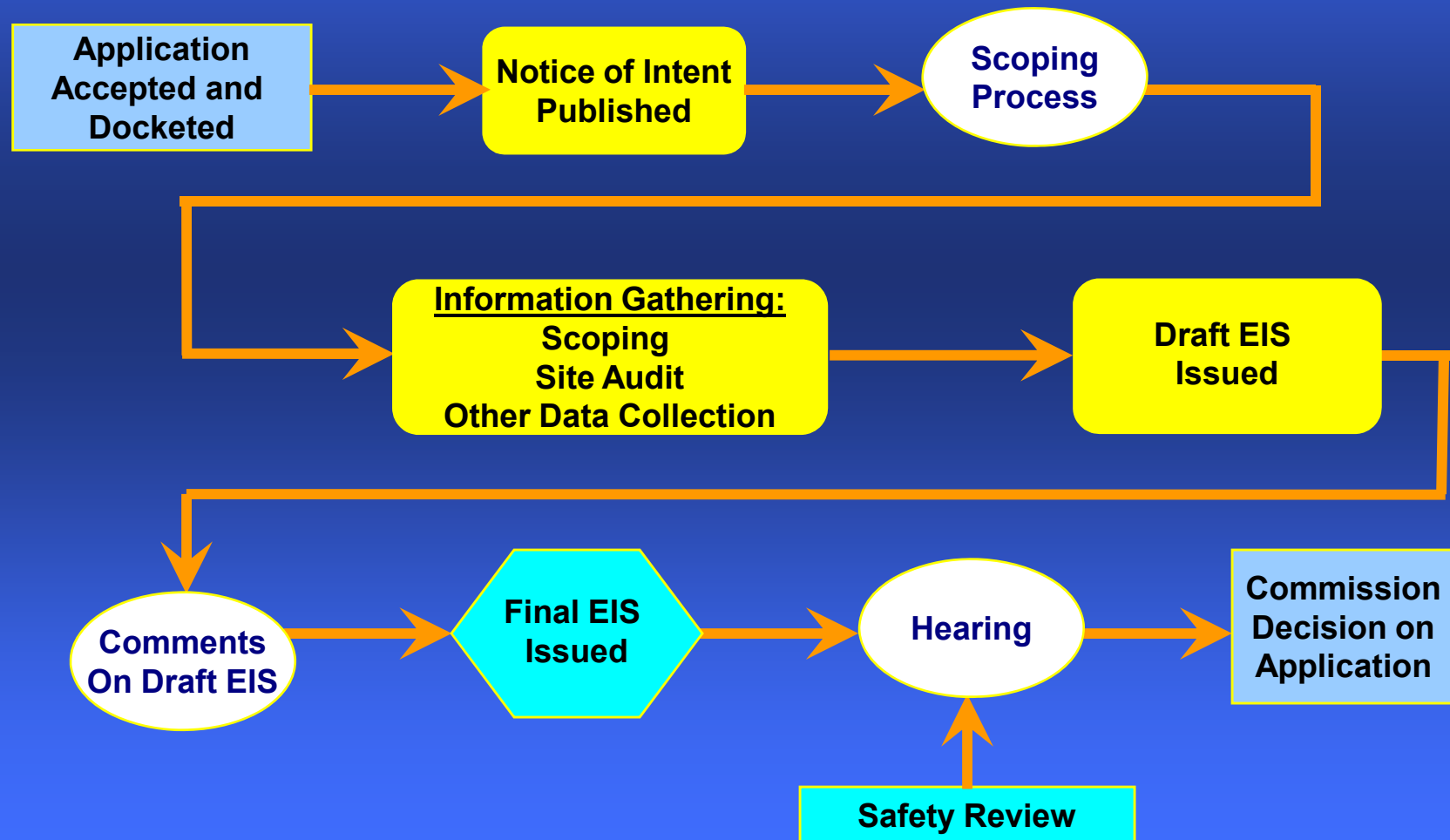
- **NEPA requires Federal agencies to use a systematic approach to consider environmental impacts**
- **An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is required for major Federal actions that may significantly affect the quality of the human environment**
- **Issuing a combined license is considered a major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



# NRC Environmental Review

- Evaluate potential environmental impacts of construction and operation of a new nuclear facility at the Bell Bend site
- Informed and systematic decision making
  - 10 CFR Part 51 - NRC's regulations for implementing NEPA
  - NUREG-1555 - NRC's "*Environmental Standard Review Plan,*" provides review guidance
- Provide for public involvement
  - Scoping comment period
  - Draft EIS comment period
- Clearly document our environmental findings
- Maintain an open and transparent review process

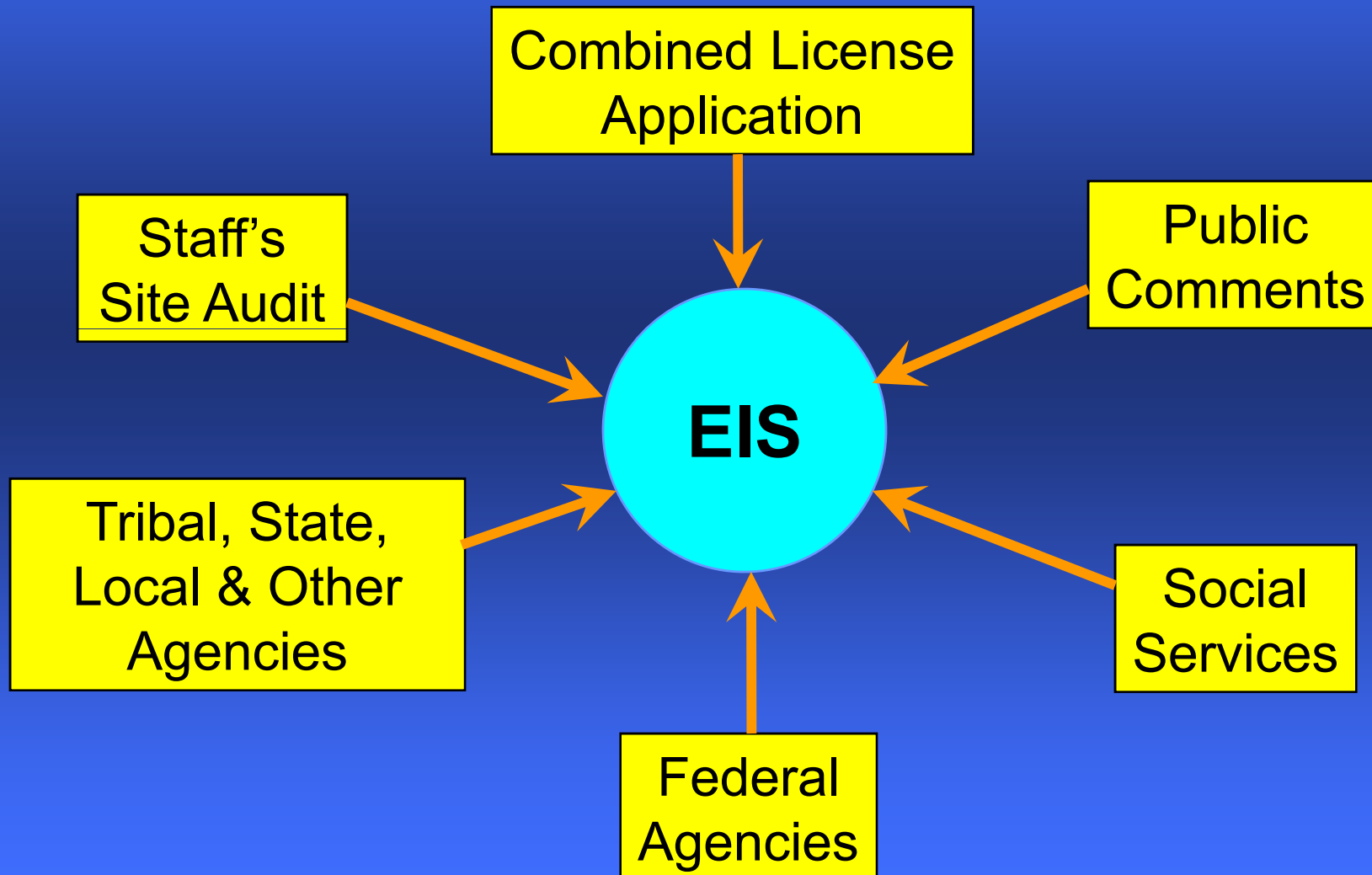
# Environmental Review Process



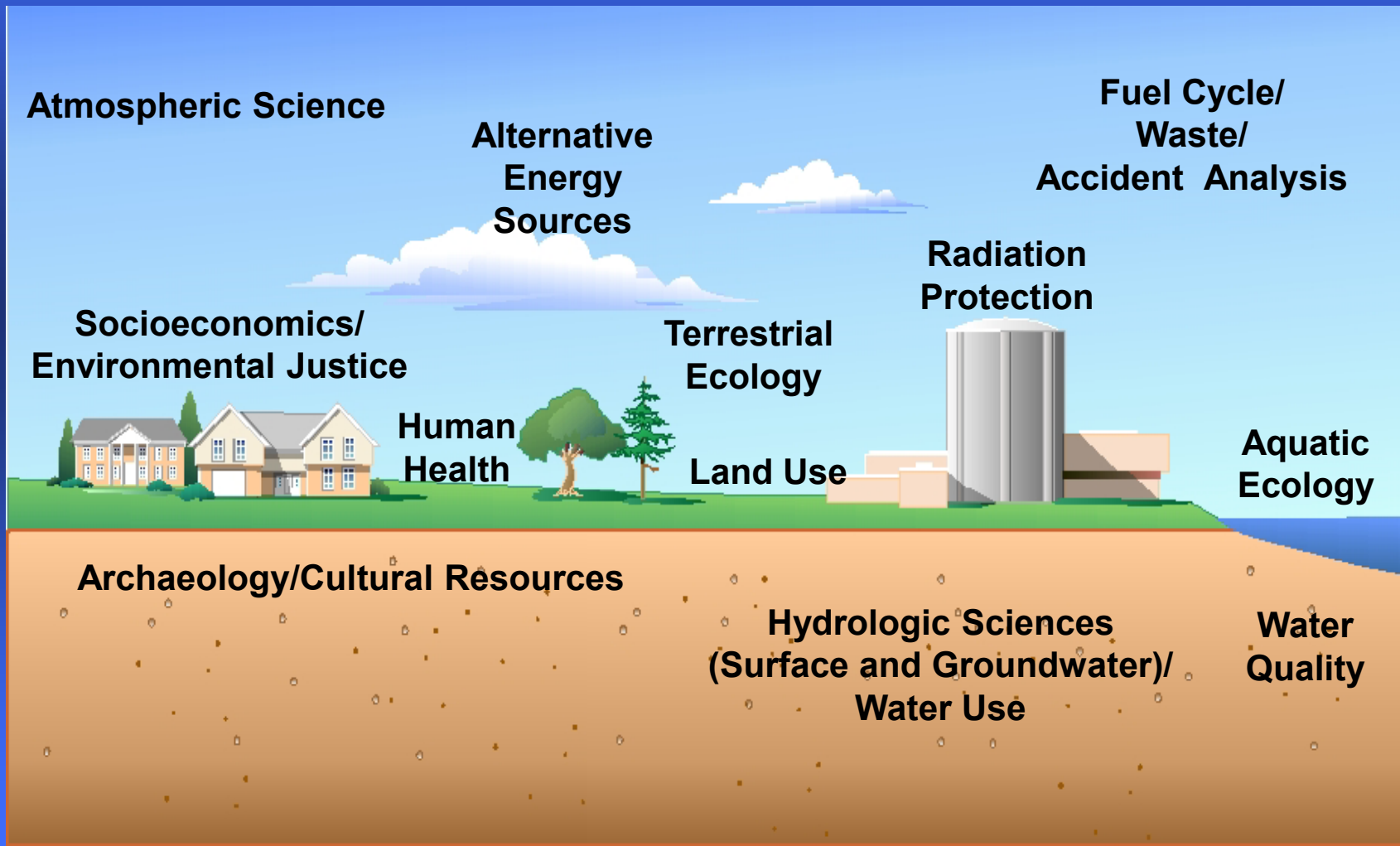
# Bell Bend Environmental Scoping

- **This process helps determine the scope of the environmental review and EIS**
- **Comments during the scoping period can be provided through March 9, 2009**
- **The Scoping Summary Report will provide responses to comments received (~July 2009)**

# Information Gathering



# Environmental Review Team Expertise



# Environmental Review Schedule

- **Review of Environmental Report started**
- **Scoping period in progress**
  - **Notice of Intent published January 6, 2009**
  - **Comment period ends March 9, 2009**
- **Issue Draft EIS ~2010**
- **Public Meeting on Draft EIS ~2010**
- **Issue Final EIS ~2011**

# Public Involvement

- **Public interaction during environmental review**
  
- **Hearing**
  - **Covers both environmental and safety issues**
  - **Mandatory hearing and, if necessary, contested hearing(s)**
  - **Interested persons can petition to intervene**

**Obtain more information on NRC's website at:**

**<http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-reactors/col/bell-bend.html>**

# Hearing and Petition to Intervene

- **Petition to intervene**
  - **Deadline to file is 60 days from publication of Federal Register Notice of Opportunity for Hearing**
  - **Rules governing intervention petitions:  
10 CFR 2.309**
  
- **Digital certificate is required, allow 10 business days for obtaining the digital certificate**
  
- **Instructions for e-filing will be in the hearing notice and at [www.nrc.gov/site-help/e-submittals.html](http://www.nrc.gov/site-help/e-submittals.html)**
  
- **E-filing Help Desk Phone Number: 1 (866) 672-7640**



# NRC Bell Bend Contacts and Information

- **Stacey Imboden, Environmental Project Manager**
  - **1 (800) 368-5642, extension 2462**
- **Michael Canova, Lead Safety Project Manager**
  - **1 (800) 368-5642, extension 0737**
- **Public Document Room**
  - **Telephone: 1-800-397-4209**
  - **Email: [pdr.resource@nrc.gov](mailto:pdr.resource@nrc.gov)**

**Bell Bend documents can be viewed at:**

- **NRC's Bell Bend COL website:**  
**<http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/new-reactors/col/bell-bend.html>**
- **McBride Memorial Library in Berwick, Mill Memorial Public Library in Nanticoke**

# Environmental Scoping Comments

**Provide Scoping comments through March 9, 2009:**

- **At this scoping meeting**
  
- **By mail: Chief, Rulemaking, Directives, and  
Editing Branch  
Division of Administrative Services  
Office of Administration  
Mailstop TWB-05-B01M  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001**
  
- **By email: [BBNP.COLEIS@nrc.gov](mailto:BBNP.COLEIS@nrc.gov)**