

Scoping Meeting

Idaho Falls, Idaho

June 4, 2009

The NRC: Who We Are And What We Do

**Patrice Bubar
Deputy Director**

Nuclear Regulatory Commission

- Established via 1974 Energy Reorganization Act
- Independent agency
- Regulates commercial uses of nuclear material
- “Protect People and the Environment”
- 4 Commissioners and a Chairman
- Other duties of the former Atomic Energy Commission assigned to Department Of Energy

More ...

- **3,400 staff: Maryland headquarters; regional offices in Pennsylvania, Georgia, Illinois, Texas**
- **NRC inspectors in 65 nuclear power plant sites and 3 fuel facilities**

Our Mission

To license and regulate the nation's civilian use of byproduct, source and special nuclear materials to ensure adequate protection of public health and safety, promote the common defense and security, and protect the environment.

The NRC Regulates:

- **Nuclear reactors** - commercial power, research and test; new designs
- **Nuclear materials** - reactor fuel; radioactive materials for medical, industrial, academic use
- **Nuclear waste** – transportation; storage and disposal; decommissioning of facilities
- **Nuclear security** – physical security of nuclear facilities and materials from sabotage or attacks

What We Don't Do

- Build or promote nuclear facilities
- Own or operate nuclear power plants
- Regulate nuclear weapons, military reactors or space vehicle reactors
- Regulate natural radon and X-rays

Open To The Public

- NRC places a high priority on keeping the public and stakeholders informed. At www.nrc.gov, you can:
 - Find meeting dates, transcripts
 - Read testimony, speeches, press releases, policy decisions
 - Access the Electronic Reading Room to find publications and documents.

Communications

NRC initiates dialogue with stakeholders including:

- **Other Federal agencies**
- **State agencies**
- **Congress**
- **State and local officials**
- **International organizations**
- **Federally recognized Indian Tribes**
- **Nuclear industry groups**
- **Public interest groups**
- **You**

Why are we here?

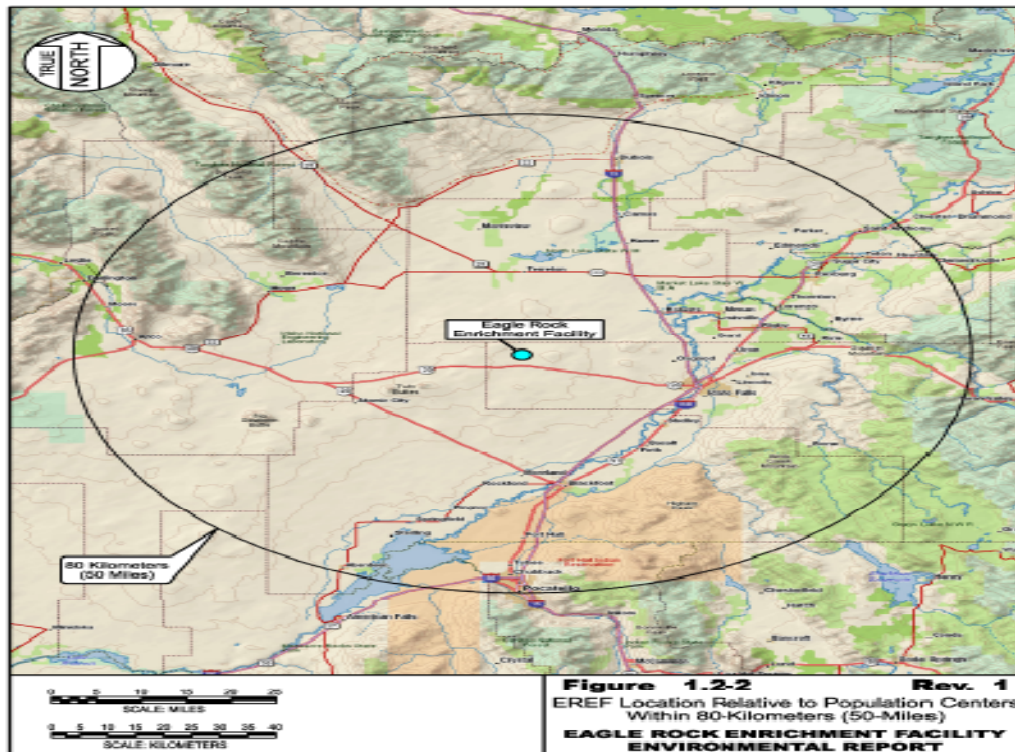
- As part of the licensing process, NRC conducts an environmental review
- Your input is vital
- We are at the beginning. No decisions have been made

Licensing Process

Breeda Reilly, NRC
Licensing Project Manager

Objectives

- **Provide brief summary of**
 - **Proposed AREVA NC Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility license application**
 - **NRC licensing process**



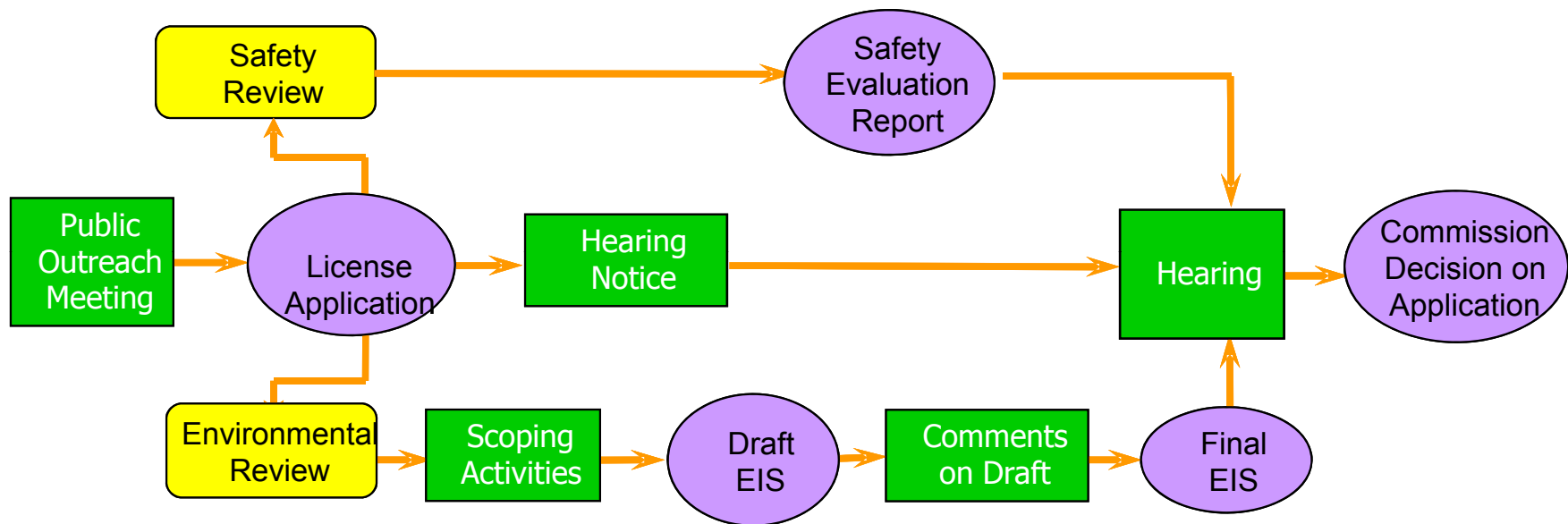
License Application

- **Location: Bonneville County, ID**
(about 18 miles west of Idaho Falls)
- **Name: Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility**
- **Technology: Centrifuge technology**
- **Product: Enriched uranium for fuel for nuclear power plants**

License Application

- Application submitted: December 30, 2008
- Application revised to double the capacity of the facility: April 24, 2009
- NRC safety and environmental reviews underway.

Licensing Process



Safety Review Scope

- Applicant's qualifications, safety programs, accident sequences, and decommissioning plans.
- Example review areas include:
 - Management organization and administrative policies
 - Integrated safety analysis
 - Radiation, nuclear criticality, chemical safety, and fire protection programs
 - Physical protection
- Reviews address both normal operating and accident conditions

NRC Licensing Process

- **NRC technical review is expected to take 18 months.**
 - **NRC will review application**
 - **Request additional information**
 - **Document safety review in a Safety Evaluation Report**
- **Hearing is required for uranium enrichment plants**

Public will have several opportunities to provide input to the licensing process.

- **Opportunity to petition for a hearing will be offered after application is submitted**
- **Environmental review process**
 - **Scoping meeting**
 - **Draft EIS**

NRC Licensing Process

- **Staff will conduct a public meeting to discuss results of the Final EIS and Safety Evaluation Report.**
- **If license is issued, staff will conduct a public meeting to discuss its inspection program for facility construction.**

NRC Web Sites:



- <http://www.nrc.gov/materials/fuel-cycle-fac/ur-enrichment.html>
- <http://www/nrc.gov/materials/fuel-cycle-fac/arevanc.html>

NRC Contacts:



**Breeda Reilly, Licensing Project
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Breeda.Reilly@nrc.gov**

**Gloria Kulesa, Environmental Project
Manager; 301-415-5308;
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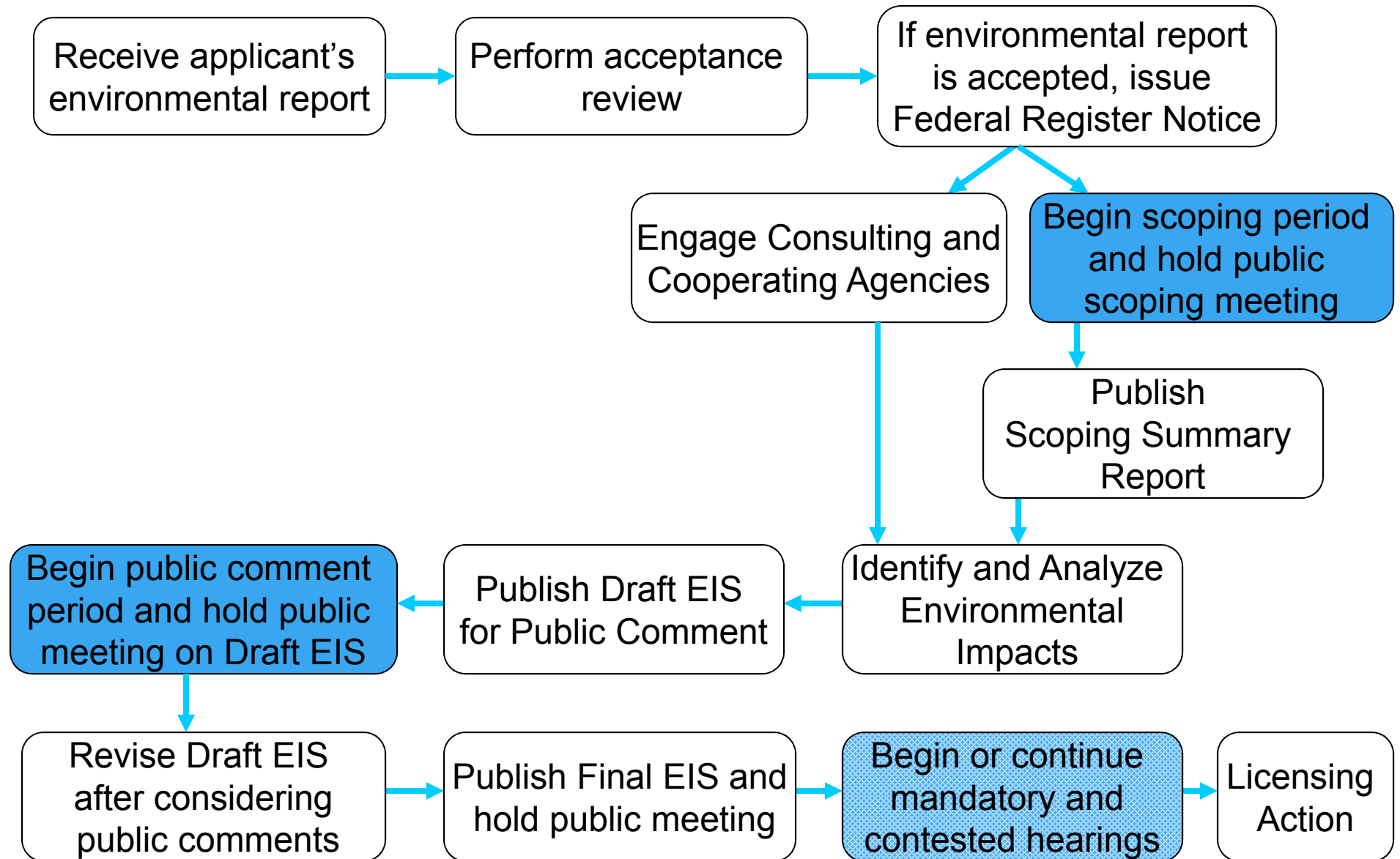
Environmental Process

Gloria Kulesa, NRC
Environmental Project Manager

Law, Regulation, and Guidance Documents

- **National Environmental Policy Act of 1969**
- **Title 10, Code of Federal Regulations,
Part 51**
- **NUREG 1748**

ENVIRONMENTAL PROCESS



ENVIRONMENTAL PROCESS

Receive applicant's
environmental report

Perform acceptance
review

If environmental report
is accepted, issue
Federal Register Notice

Engage Consulting and
Cooperating Agencies

Begin scoping period
and hold public
scoping meeting

Scoping for an Enrichment Facility

- Requirement of NEPA, NRC
- Refine the environmental review
 - Receive and address your concerns
 - Identify significant, eliminate unimportant
 - Identify alternatives
 - Identify related documents
 - Identify other environmental review and consultation requirements
- Listen, receive written comments

ENVIRONMENTAL PROCESS

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Federal Register Notice

Engage Consulting and
Cooperating Agencies

Begin scoping period
and hold public
scoping meeting

Publish
Scoping Summary
Report

Publish Draft EIS
for Public Comment

Identify and Analyze
Environmental
Impacts

What is an EIS?

- **An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) describes potential environmental impacts of a proposed action and its alternatives**
- **Provides information for the public and agency decision makers**
- **An EIS addresses five main topics**
 - The proposed action, including its purpose and the need it meets
 - Alternatives, including no action
 - The affected environment
 - Environmental impacts
 - Mitigative measures

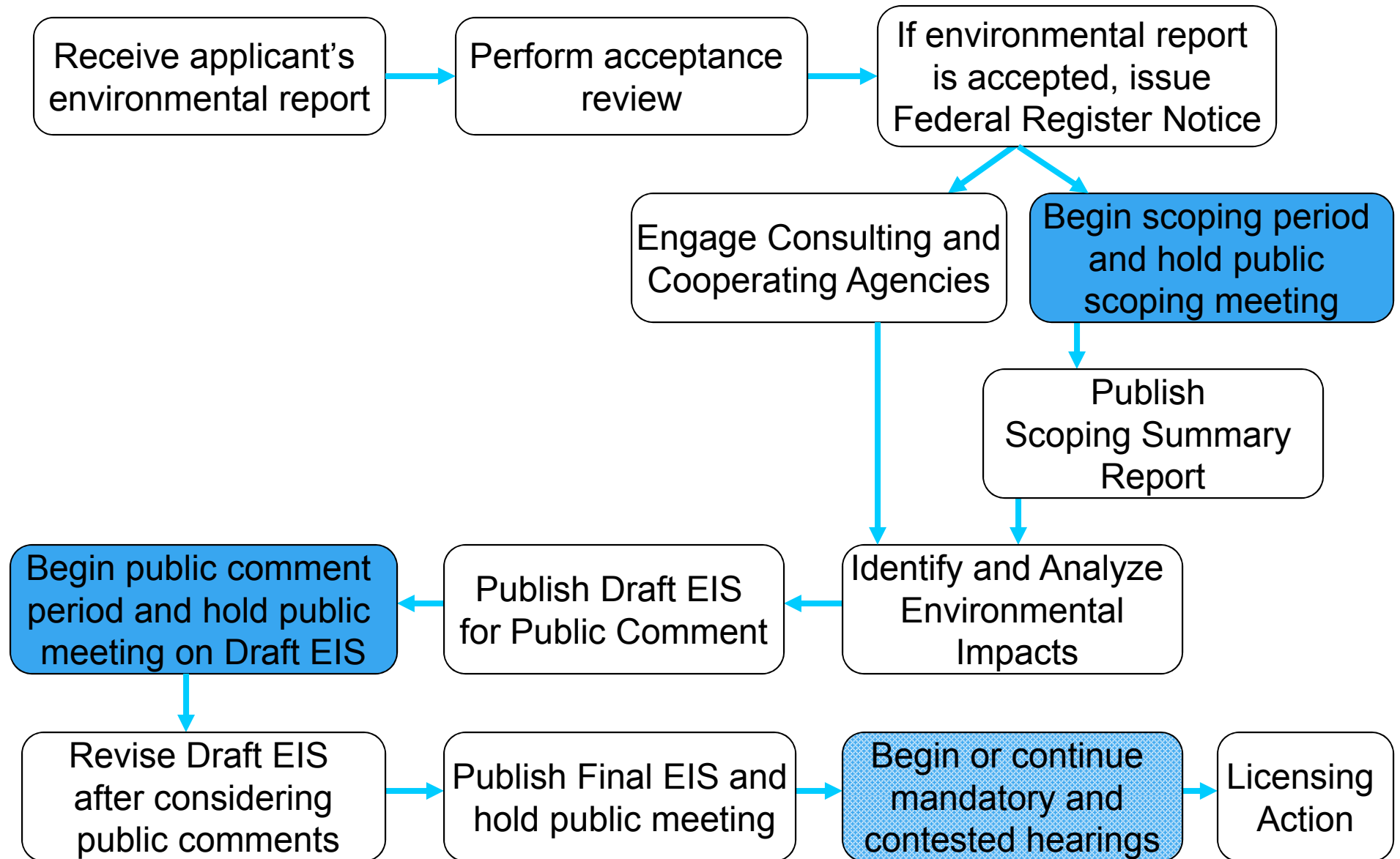
MORE ...

- **Describes effects: construction; operation; and decommissioning**
- **Example review areas include**
 - Air, water, soils, plants, and animals
 - Public and worker health
 - Historic, archaeological, or architectural property, and artifacts
 - Economic, cultural, and social services
 - Terrorism
 - Environmental justice
- **Address direct, indirect, short and long term, cumulative impacts**

Public Involvement in Environmental Process

- **Scoping meeting**
- **Draft EIS**

ENVIRONMENTAL PROCESS



How do I make a comment?



- **Speak at this meeting**
- **Fill out a comment form**
- **Send an email to EagleRock.EIS@nrc.gov**
- **Write to NRC (note Docket No.70-7015)**
 - Chief, Rules and Directives Branch**
 - Mail Stop TWB 5B01M**
 - U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission**
 - Washington, DC 20555–0001**

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AREVA Eagle Rock Enrichment Facility

<http://www.nrc.gov/materials/fuel-cycle-fac/arevanc.html>

(License Application contains links to the safety and environmental reports)

ADAMS (Docket # 70-7015)

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams/web-based.html>

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Scoping Comments

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