

BP

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.

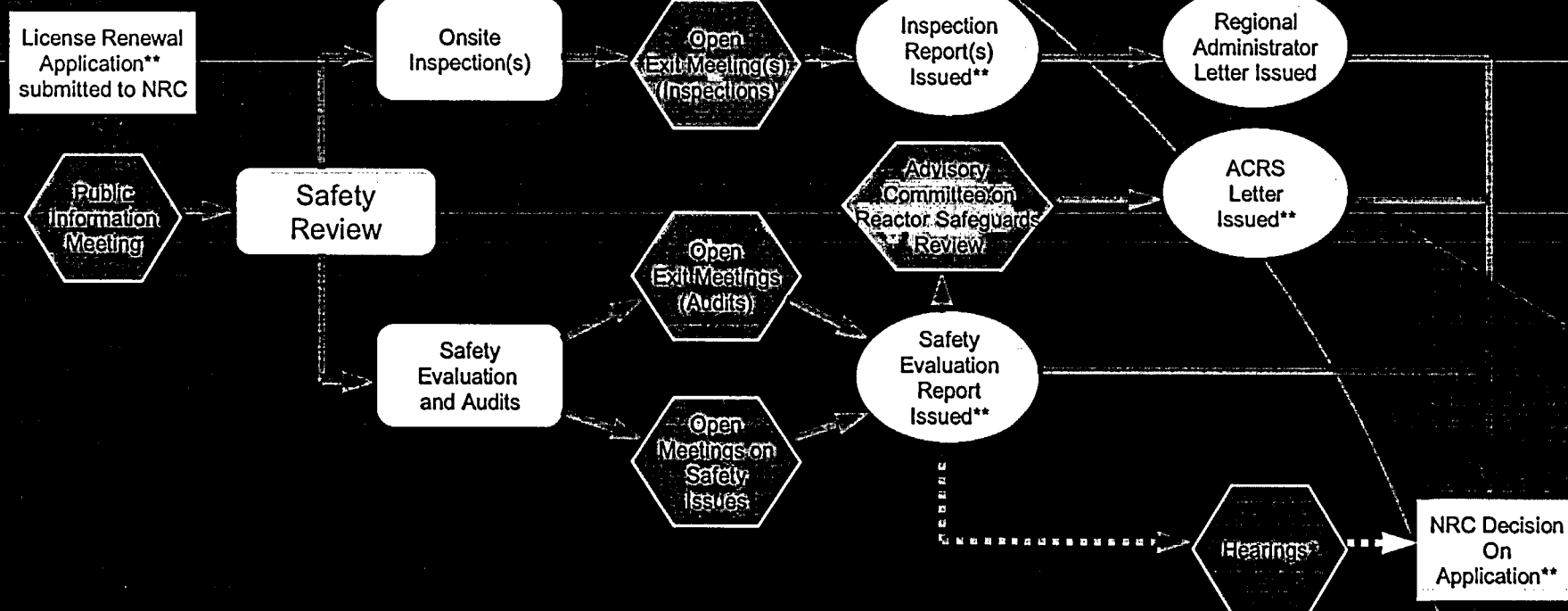


Decision Standard for Environmental Review

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
Analyses and
Onsite Audit

Hearings*

NRC Decision
On
Application**

Environmental
Review

Local, State,
Tribal, and Federal
Government
Officials

Local, State,
Tribal, and Federal
Government
Officials

Scoping
Process

Public
Meetings on
Scoping

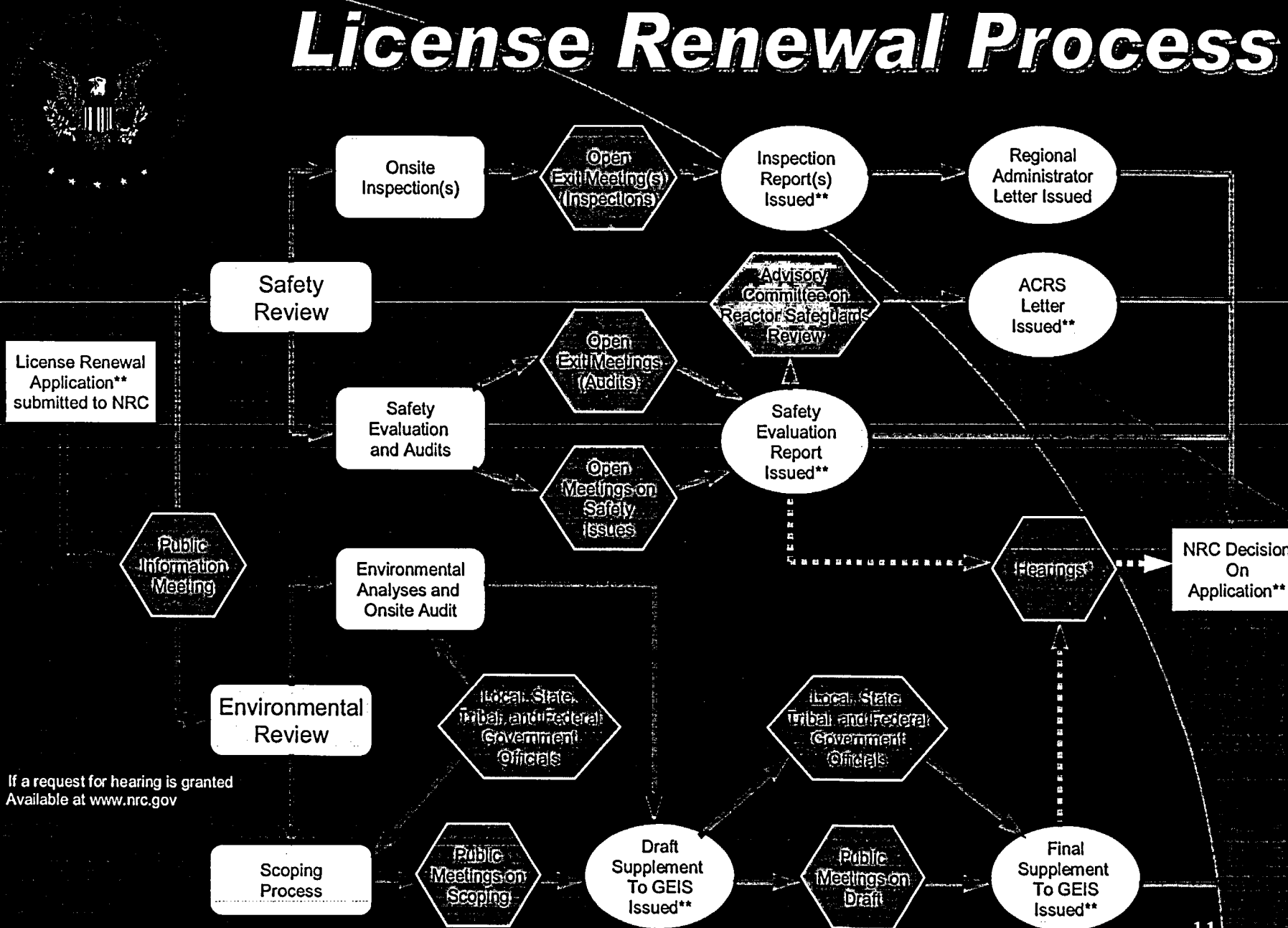
Draft
Supplement
To GEIS
Issued**

Public
Meetings on
Draft

Final
Supplement
To GEIS
Issued**

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

License Renewal Process



* 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>