



U.S.NRC

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

Protecting People and the Environment

**Duane Arnold Energy Center
License Renewal Process and
Environmental Scoping Meeting**



Purpose of Today's Meeting

- Describe the licensing renewal process
- Describe the environmental review process
- Provide license renewal process schedule
- Solicit public input on environmental review:
 - Describe how to submit comments
 - Accept comments today



NRC Regulatory Oversight

➤ NRC's Governing Statutes

- Atomic Energy Act
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)



NRC Regulatory Oversight

➤ NRC's Mission

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



Duane Arnold Energy Center License Renewal

- Duane Arnold Energy Center
 - License expiration date Feb. 21, 2014
- Renewal application was received by NRC on Oct. 1, 2008



Contents of Application

- General information about the plant owner or operator
- Technical information about plant structures and components, and how the applicant proposes to manage aging-related issues
- Changes to plant Technical Specifications
- Environmental Report which provides technical information for use in preparing the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)



License Renewal Review

➤ Safety Review

- Focuses on the aging effects of components and structures important to plant safety
- NRC's responsibility is to determine whether aging effects will be effectively managed
- Considers generic and site-specific operating experience related to the effects of aging.

➤ Environmental Review

- Evaluates and discloses environmental impacts of: (1) continued plant operation and (2) alternatives to license renewal.
- NRC is responsible for determining if the environmental impacts are:
 - Reasonably acceptable, allowing the license to be renewed; or
 - So unacceptable as to warrant selection of a more environmentally preferable alternative



Ongoing Regulatory Oversight

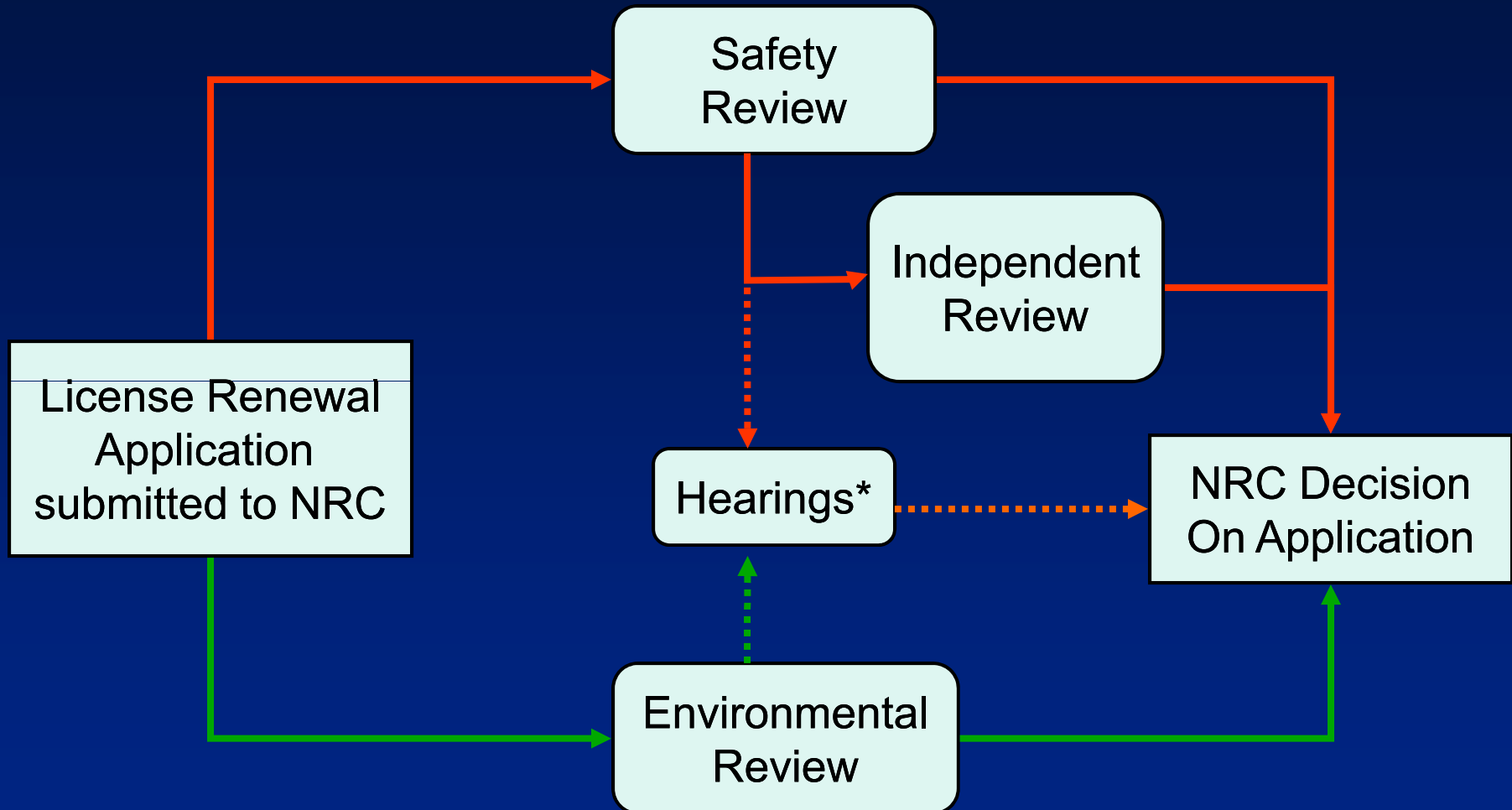
- Emergency Planning
 - 10 CFR 50.47

- Security
 - 10 CFR Part 73

- Current Safety Performance

operating reactor performance web site:
http://www.nrc.gov/NRR/OVERSIGHT/ASSESS/CNS/cns_chart.html

License Renewal Process



* If a Request for Hearing is Granted



License Renewal Safety Principles

- The ongoing regulatory process is adequate to ensure the safety of all currently operating plants
- The same plant operating rules apply during the renewal term
 - NRC applies additional conditions for aging management



Safety Review (10 CFR Part 54)

- Safety Review by NRC technical staff:
 - Review application and supporting documentation
 - On-site audits
 - Issue Safety Evaluation Report
- On-site inspections by NRC staff
- Independent review by the:
 - Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards



Environmental Review Process

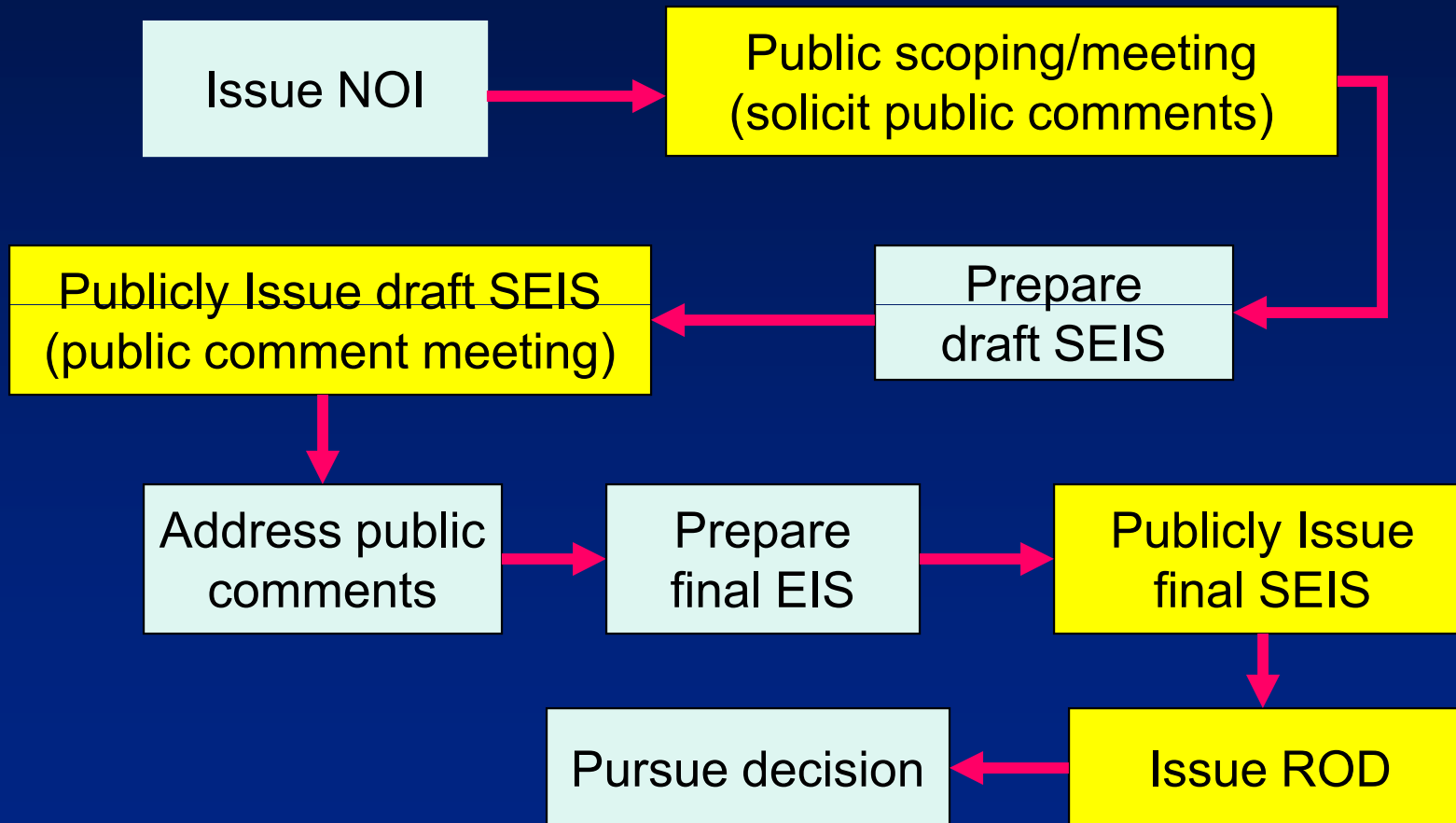
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA):
 - Establishes basic U.S. environmental policy
 - Requires preparation of an:
 - Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for:
 - Major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment
 - An objective, interdisciplinary, & systematic
 - Process be used in preparing the EIS



Environmental Review (10 CFR Part 51)

- Environmental Impact Statement (EIS):
 - Rigorously investigates environmental impacts of the:
 - License renewal proposal and alternatives
- Purpose of the EIS is to inform:
 - Federal decision-makers, and to publicly disclose:
 - Impacts of the proposal and “reasonable alternatives”
 - Including the alternative of taking “no-action”
- NRC’s Environmental Regulations:
10 CFR Part 51

Simplified EIS Process



* Yellow blocks represent key public participation steps



Purpose of this Meeting

➤ Purpose of this meeting:

- Is not to make a decision regarding the proposed:
 - renewal of the license application
- Instead, it is to solicit public input/comments:
 - regarding the scope of the EIS
- EIS will assist the NRC in making a final decision:
 - regarding renewal of the license appl.



Specific Scoping Process

- This EIS scoping process will be used to determine the scope of:
 - Actions
 - Impacts
 - Alternatives



Environmental Review (10 CFR Part 51)

- Relationship between GEIS and SEIS
 - Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS)
 - Site-specific Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS)
 - Evaluate any *new and significant information* concerning generic conclusions reached in the GEIS

Environmental Impact Statement

➤ EIS Evaluates Impacts to Resources:

- Fish and Wildlife
- Air and Water Resources
- Historical or Cultural Resources
- Human Health
- Land use
- Taxes, Community Development, social, Environmental Justice

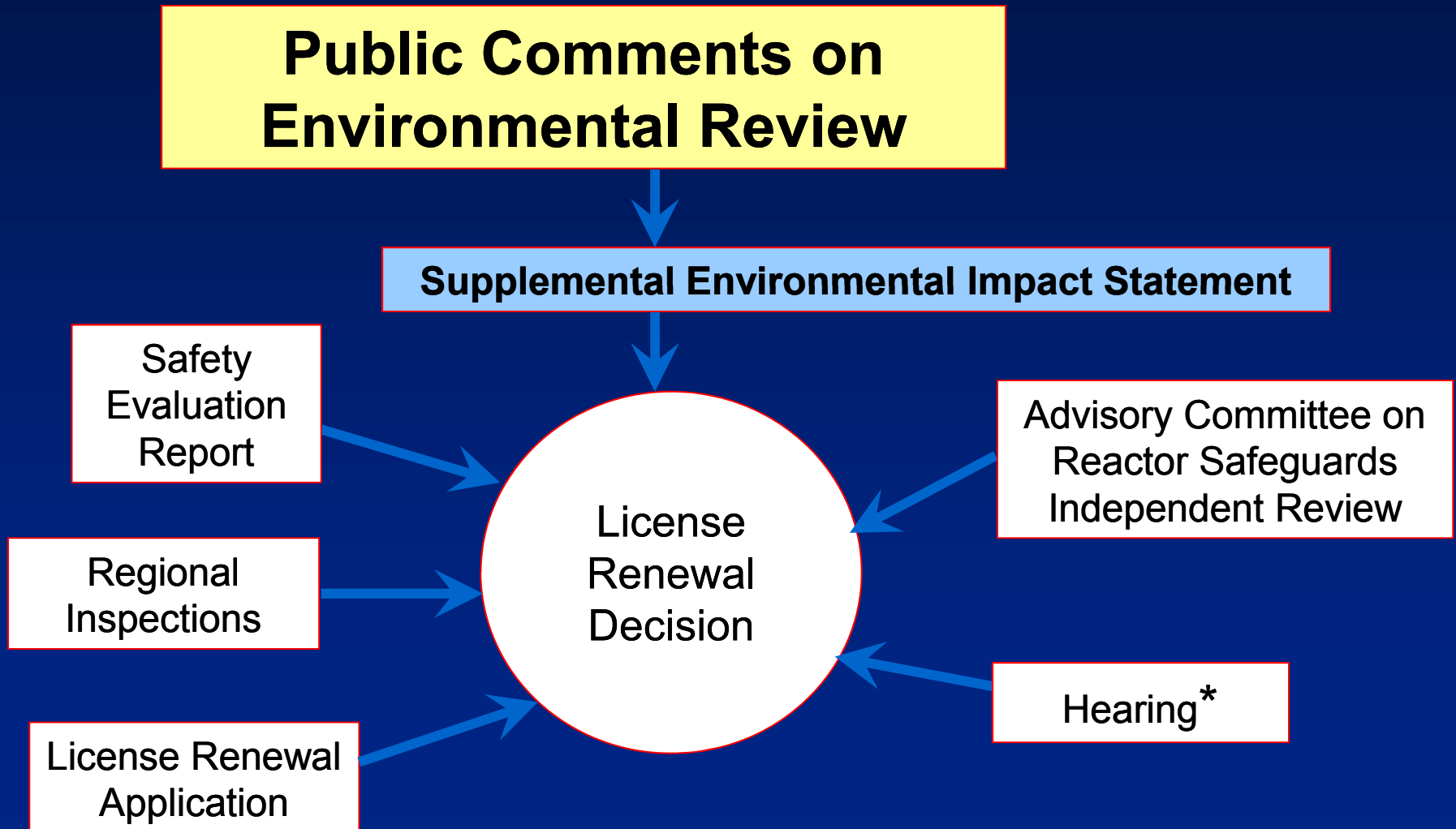




Scoping and Public Involvement

- What community issues should the EIS focus on?
- What local environmental impacts or issues should the EIS examine?
- What reasonable alternatives are appropriate for this area?

Role of Public Comments on Environmental Review



*If a Request for Hearing is Granted



Submitting Comments on the Scope of the Environmental Review

- Provide written comments:
 - By mail: Chief; Rules, Directives, and Editing Branch
Division of Administrative Services
Mailstop TWB-05-B01M
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555
 - E-mail: DuaneArnoldEIS@nrc.gov
 - In person: 11545 Rockville Pike
Rockville, Maryland
 - **Comments should be submitted by May 25, 2009**



Projected Environmental Review Milestones

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| ➤ Application Received | Oct. 1, 2008 |
| ➤ Notice of Opportunity for Hearing | Feb. 17, 2009 |
| ➤ Notice of Intent for Scoping | Mar. 24, 2009 |
| ➤ Environmental Scoping Meeting | Apr. 22, 2009 |
| ➤ Hearing Opportunity Closes | Apr. 20, 2009 |
| ➤ Scoping Comments Due | May. 25, 2009 |
| ➤ Draft SEIS Issued | Jan. 29, 2010 |
| ➤ Draft SEIS Public Meeting | Mar. 3, 2010 |
| ➤ Draft SEIS Comments Due | Apr. 14, 2010 |
| ➤ Final SEIS Issued | Oct. 15, 2010 |



Additional Information

- **Contacts: (800) 368-5642**
 - Maurice Heath, ext. 3137
 - Charles Eccleston, ext. 8537

- **Documents located at:**
 - Hiawatha Public Library, 150 West Willman Street, Hiawatha, Iowa 52233

- **Documents available at NRC's Web site:**
<http://www.nrc.gov/reactors/operating/licensing/renewal/applications/duane-arnold-energy-center.html>