



**Combined License Application  
Review  
FERMI 3**

**Environmental Panel 1**

**February 4, 2015**

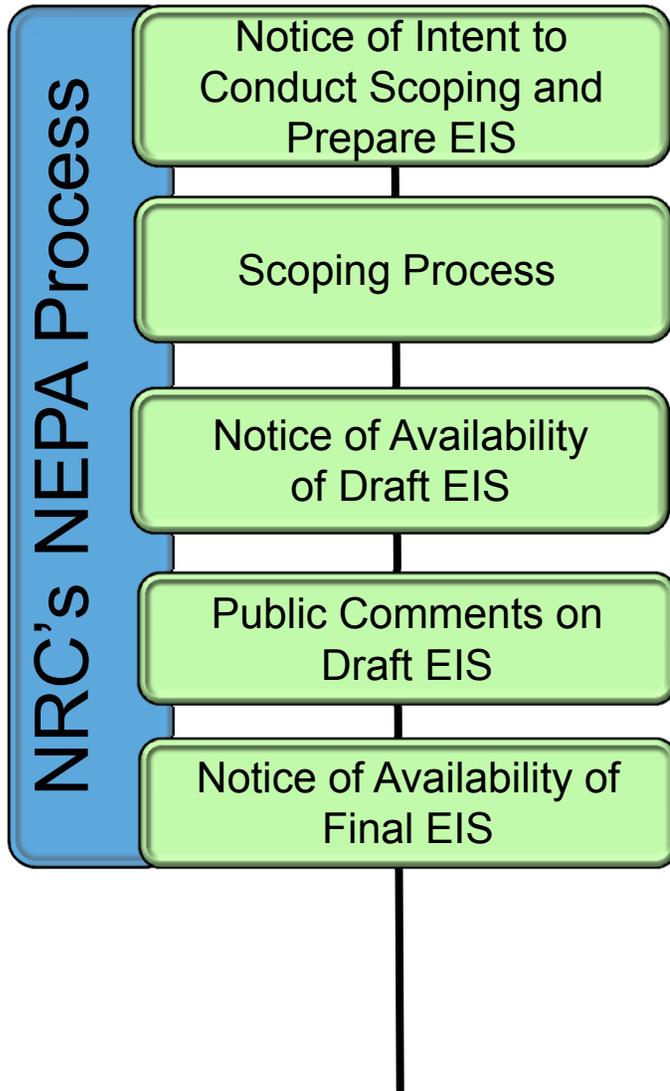
# Panelists

- **Jennifer Dixon-Herrity, Chief, Environmental Projects Branch**
- **Mallecia Sutton, Lead Environmental Project Manager**
- **Andrew Kugler, Senior Project Manager**

# **Environmental Review: Regulations and Guidance**

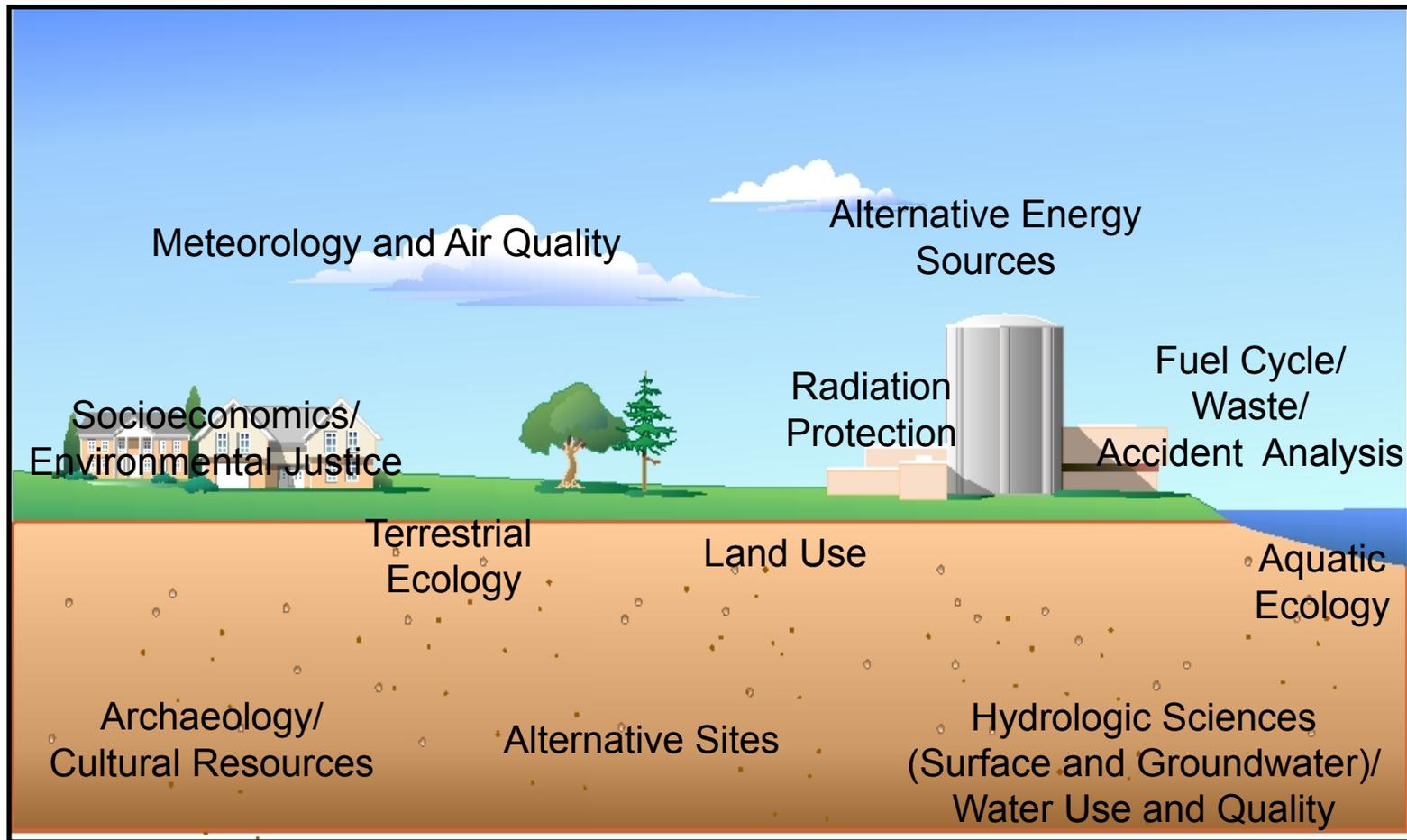
- **National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)**
- **NRC framework for implementing NEPA includes:**
  - **10 CFR Part 51**
  - **Environmental Standard Review Plan (NUREG-1555)**
  - **Supplemental internal guidance**

# Review Process & Schedule



- **Published *Federal Register* notice in December 2008**
- **Scoping period from December 2008 to February 2009; scoping meetings held in January 2009 (Monroe)**
- **EPA Published *Federal Register* notice on October 28, 2011**
- **Comment period on Draft EIS from October 28, 2011 to January 11, 2012**
- **Final EIS published January 18, 2013**

# Environmental Resource Areas



Source U.S. NRC

# How Impacts are Qualified

- ***SMALL*** – Environmental effects are not detectable, or so minor that they will neither destabilize nor noticeably alter any important attribute of the resource
- ***MODERATE*** – Environmental effects are sufficient to alter noticeably, but not to destabilize, important attributes of the resource
- ***LARGE*** – Environmental effects are clearly noticeable and sufficient to destabilize important attributes of the resource

# **Summary of Impacts – Small Impacts**

- **Water Resources**
- **Aquatic Ecology**
- **Land Use**
- **Meteorology and Air Quality**
- **Radiological and Non-Radiological Health**
- **Environmental Justice**
- **Fuel Cycle, Transportation, and  
Decommissioning**

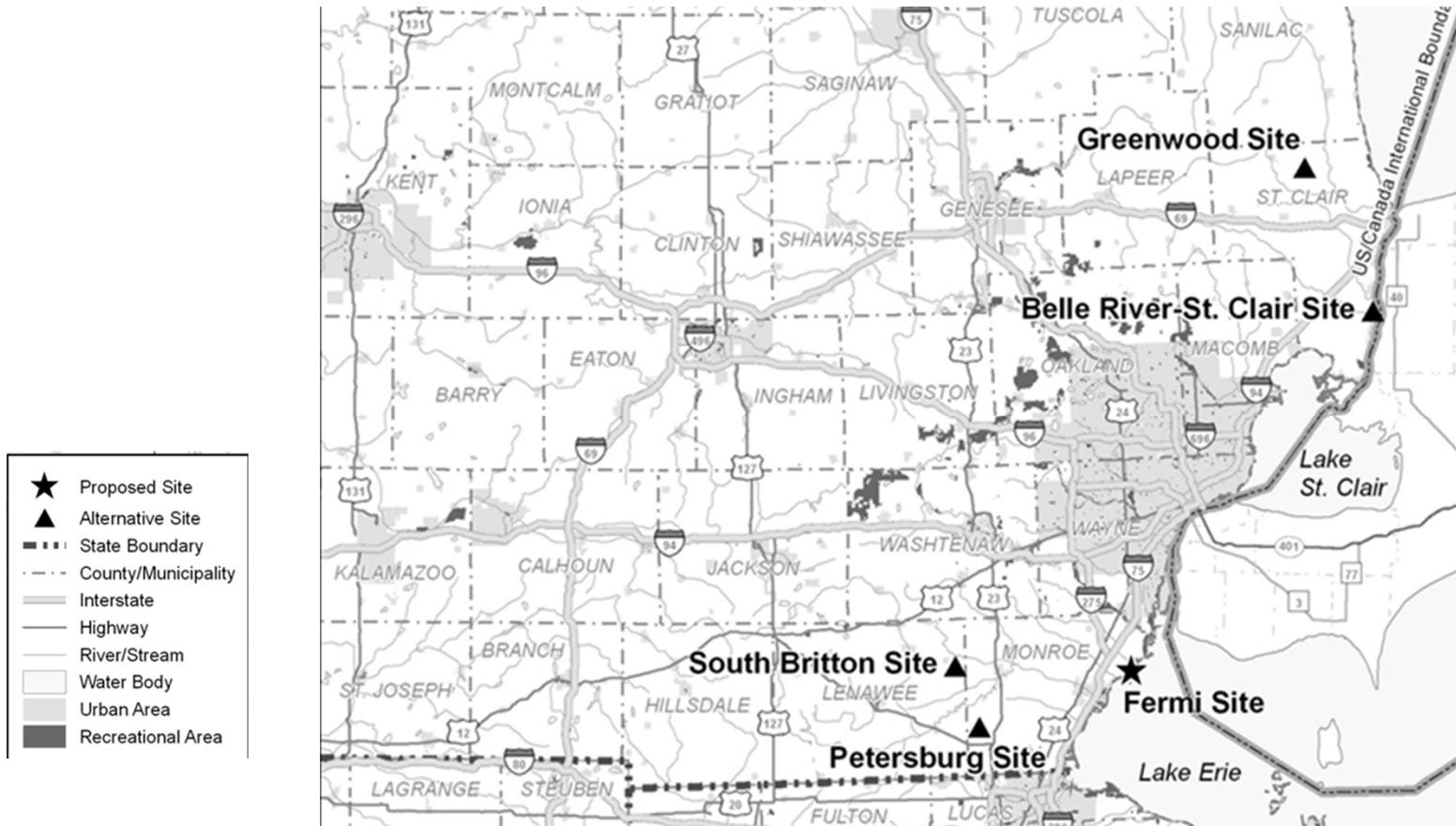
# **Summary of Impacts – Small to Moderate Impacts**

- **Terrestrial Ecology**
- **Socioeconomic**
- **Cumulative**

# Alternatives

- **Energy Alternatives - None of the feasible baseload alternatives considered was environmentally preferable**
- **Alternative Sites - The four alternative sites were not environmentally preferable to the Fermi site**
- **Alternative System Designs – No alternative cooling systems were environmentally preferable to the proposed plant design**

# Alternative Sites



# **Process for Addressing New Information**

- **Staff developed internal guidance to determine if a supplement to the EIS should be prepared as required by 10 CFR 51.92**
- **The applicant was contacted to determine whether there was new information**
- **Staff monitored changes to the application**
- **No substantial changes or significant new information were identified that would call for a supplement**

# **Endangered Species Act Consultation**

**Consultation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service may impact timing of final licensing decision**

- **Rufa Red Knot Bird listed as Threatened on December 11, 2014**
- **Northern Long Eared Bat planned to be listed on April 2, 2015**



# Conclusions

- **Environmental impacts for most resource areas would be SMALL**
- **None of the reasonable alternative energy sources, sites, or system designs was environmentally preferable**
- **New information did not affect these conclusions**
- **Newly listed species could impact timing of the final licensing decision**

# **Recommendation**

**The staff's assessments documented in the FEIS support a recommendation to the Commission to issue the license**