



United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Protecting People and the Environment

Regulatory Considerations

**Public Meeting on Blending of
Low-Level Radioactive Waste**

Maurice Heath
Division of Waste Management and
Environmental Protection
January 2010



Background

- Path forward: Guidance, Policy Statement, Rulemaking?
- Waste classification rulemaking
- Compatibility
- Concentration Averaging BTP



Background

- Volume Reduction Policy Statement
- Attribution
- Risk-informed, performance-based regulation policy



Questions for Discussion

- How should NRC implement a position on blending of LLRW (i.e., by rulemaking, guidance, policy statement or other means)?
- If a rule were to be promulgated, what compatibility category should it be; i.e., how strictly must Agreement States follow any NRC rule?
- Given that Agreement States are not required to adopt NRC's guidance on blending, how are different States addressing this issue? What are the advantages and disadvantages of these approaches?
- What oversight might be needed to ensure that blending is performed appropriately?
- If blended waste could not be attributed to the original generator of the waste, what issues does this raise?
- What would be a risk-informed, performance-based approach to addressing blending?
- NRC is budgeting resources to initiate a long-term rulemaking to revise the waste classification system. How might alternative waste classification systems be affected by blending?