

Two main references for the compatibility designations – meaning, description

5.9 Adequacy and Compatibility of Agreement State Programs:

http://adamswebsearch2.nrc.gov/idmws/doccontent.dll?library=PU_ADAMS^PBNTAD01&ID=041880008

From the handbook, on page 3:

Compatibility Category C: NRC program elements in Category C are those that do not meet the criteria of Category A or B, but the essential objectives of which an Agreement State should adopt to avoid conflict, duplication, gaps, or other conditions that would jeopardize an orderly pattern in the regulation of agreement material on a nationwide basis. An Agreement State should adopt the essential objectives of the NRC program elements.

SA-200: Compatibility Categories and Health and Safety Identification for NRC Regulations and Other Program Elements - SA-200

<http://nrc-stp.ornl.gov/procedures/sa200.pdf>

On page 6 of 10:

C = Program element, the essential objectives of which should be adopted by the State to avoid conflicts, duplications or gaps. The manner in which the essential objectives are addressed need not be the same as NRC, provided the essential objectives are met;

Review of State Regulatory Requirements - SA-201

<http://nrc-stp.ornl.gov/procedures/sa201.pdf>

This procedure describes the process for review and comment on proposed and final State regulations, other generic State legally binding requirements (LBR) and Suggested State Regulations (SSRs).

From Monica's comment:

Q What do the Compatibility Categories mean?

A. On the basis of the 1997 Commission Policy Statement on Adequacy and Compatibility and Management Directive 5.9, NRC program elements (including regulations) can be placed into four compatibility categories. In addition, NRC program elements also can be identified as having particular health and safety significance or as being reserved solely to the NRC.

Compatibility Category C - program elements that do not meet the criteria of Category A or B, but the essential objectives of which an Agreement State should adopt to avoid conflict, duplication, gaps, or other conditions that would jeopardize an orderly pattern in the regulation of agreement material on a nationwide basis. An Agreement State should adopt the essential objectives of the NRC program elements, but may be more restrictive.