

# **NRC's Review of the Draft Waste Incidental to Reprocessing (WIR) Evaluation for the Test Bed Initiative (TBI) at the Hanford Site**

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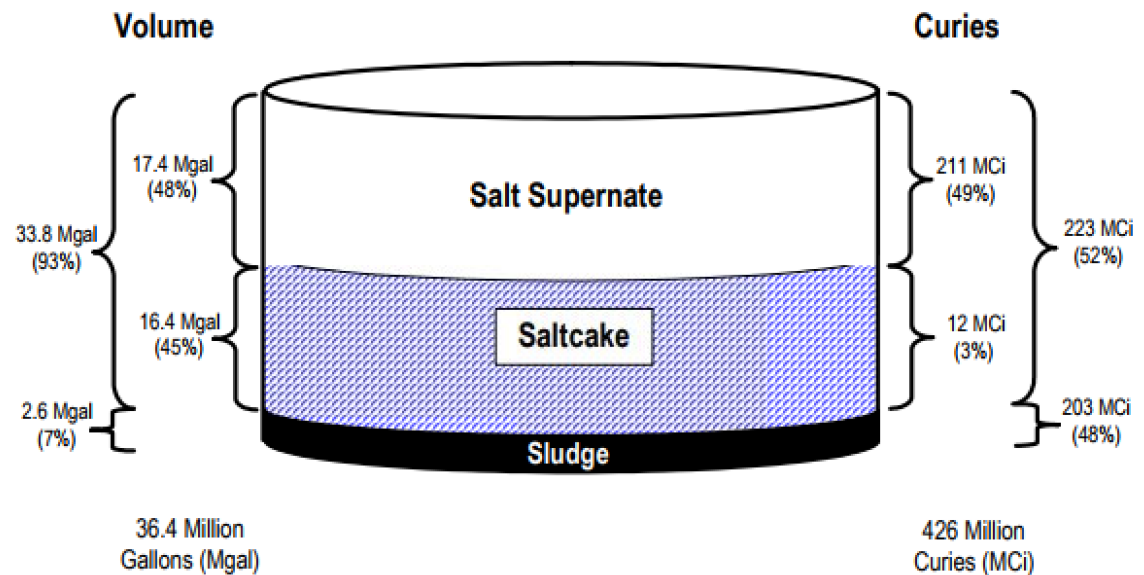
# Overview

- NRC's role at Hanford
- Criteria
- Products
- Schedule

# What is WIR? (theory)

WIR is waste from reprocessing that can be managed as low-level radioactive waste because of the lower level of risk it poses. Lower risk can result from:

- Separation and, in some cases, further decontamination of low-level fraction of waste
- Residuals of a higher-activity fraction, left in place and further stabilized



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# NRC's Role at Hanford

## Waste Incidental to Reprocessing (WIR)

- Review of Test Bed Initiative (TBI) draft WIR evaluation
- Interagency agreement at Hanford (consultation only)
- NRC will not have a monitoring role at Hanford

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# NRC's Role at Hanford

- DOE submits its draft WIR Evaluation to NRC for review.
- Consultation typically includes:
  - Scoping meetings or technical exchanges
  - Requests for Additional Information
  - NRC Technical Evaluation Report (TER)

Consultation

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# NRC's Role at Hanford - Contacts

- Project Management – Maurice Heath [Maurice.Heath@nrc.gov](mailto:Maurice.Heath@nrc.gov) x3137
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# Criteria for Determining Reprocessing Waste is WIR (i.e., not HLW)

- Three sets of similar criteria:
  - **Hanford – DOE Manual 435.1-1**
  - West Valley – NRC West Valley Policy Statement
  - SRS and INL – National Defense Authorization Act for 2005 (NDAA), Section 3116
- The criteria are generally consistent:
  - All require removing key radionuclides to the maximum extent practical (or “technically and economically practical”)
  - All require disposal to meet the performance objectives of (or comparable to) 10 CFR Part 61 (DOE Manual 435.1-1 also has alternative requirements for waste identified as TRU)

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# Performance Objectives of 10 CFR Part 61, Subpart C

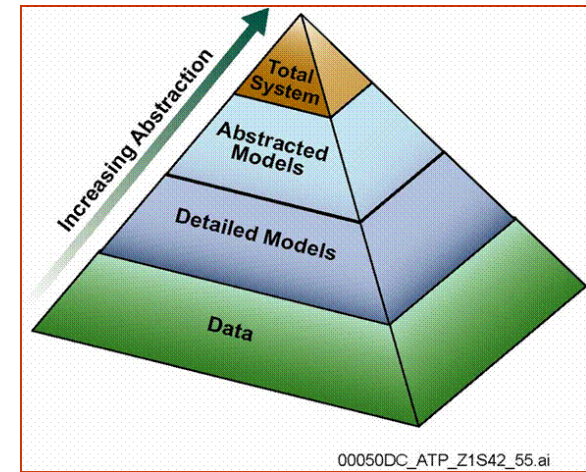
- §61.41 Protection of the general population from releases of radioactivity (dose limit & ALARA)
- § 61.42 Protection of individuals from inadvertent intrusion
- § 61.43 Protection of individuals during operations
- § 61.44 Stability of the disposal site after closure



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# What is Reviewed


- Staff conducts completeness review of documents submitted.
- Staff review the draft WIR evaluation document.
- Staff review the supporting documents (first level).
- Staff review secondary and lower-level documents as needed.



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# How is it Reviewed

NUREG-1854



**NRC Staff Guidance for  
Activities Related to  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Waste Determinations**

**Draft Final Report  
for Interim Use**

**U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Office of Federal and State Materials and  
Environmental Management Programs  
Washington, DC 20555-0001**

- Staff uses NUREG-1854 to guide the review.
- NUREG-1854 provides areas of review and review procedures (ML072360184).

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# How is it Reviewed

- NRC's review is open and transparent.
- Documents are publically available.
- Basis for requests for additional information is provided.
- A technical evaluation report (TER) is developed to document the results of the review.
- Documents can be accessed through ADAMS, enter docket number PROJ0736 in the search box.

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# Schedule

- Receive draft WIR evaluation – **October 29, 2021**
- NRC transmits completeness review letter – **November 29, 2021**
  - Note: If all the documents necessary to conduct the review are not provided, adjustments to the schedule may be needed
- NRC completes detailed technical review and issues RAIs to DOE – **January 20, 2022**
- DOE transmits RAI responses to NRC – **February 28, 2022**
  - Note: If DOE requires additional time to address RAI responses, the schedule will need to be adjusted
- NRC completes TER – April 1, 2022
- Teleconference with DOE to discuss findings – April 15, 2022
- NRC transmits TER to DOE – **May 6, 2022**

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# Concluding Remarks

- NRC is an independent federal agency whose decision is based solely on the merits of the materials provided.
- NRC strives to provide a clear and technically-sound basis for findings.

Thank you for your time and attention