Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

FY14 Air Quality National

Program:	**Ranking Date:**	**Application Number:**
Ranking Tool: FY14 Air Quality National		**Applicant:**
Final Ranking Score:		**Address:**
Planner:		**Telephone:**
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering “Yes” to the following question. Answering “Yes” to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the national priority category.	
1. a. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is “Yes”, do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is “No”, proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes O or No O
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Quality - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
2. a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to animal feeding operations, or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes O or No O
2. b. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a designated "impaired water body" (TMDL, 303d, etc.)?	Yes O or No O
2. c. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a "non-impaired water body"?	Yes O or No O
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer implement conservation practices which:	
3. a. Decrease aquifer overdraft?	Yes O or No O
3. b. Conserve water from irrigation system improvements and saved water will be available for other beneficial uses?	Yes O or No O
3. c. Conserve water in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	Yes O or No O
Clean Air: Treatment of air quality from agricultural sources - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
4. a. Meet on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes O or No O
4. b. Reduce on-farm generated green house gases such as CO2 (Carbon Dioxide), CH4 (Methane), and N2O (Nitrous Oxide)?	Yes O or No O
4. c. Increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	Yes O or No O
Soil Health: Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	Yes O or No O
5. b. Improve soil tilth, organic matter, structure, health, etc.?	Yes O or No O
Healthy Plant and Animal Communities Wildlife Habitat Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
6. a. Benefit on-farm habitat associated with threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern as identified in a State wildlife plan?	Yes O or No O
6. b. Help retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)?	Yes O or No O
High Quality, Productive Soils, Healthy Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project assist the producer implement practices which:	

7. a. Help manage or control noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	Yes O or No O
7. b. Increase, or improve habitat to benefit pollinator or other targeted wildlife species?	Yes O or No O
7. c. Properly dispose of livestock carcasses?	Yes O or No O
7. d. Are identified in an Integrated Pest Management plan?	Yes O or No O
7. e. Are identified in a Nutrient Management plan?	Yes O or No O
7. f. Apply principles of adaptive nutrient management?	Yes O or No O
Energy Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practices which:	
8. a. Reduce energy consumption on the agricultural operation?	Yes O or No O
8. b. Increase on-farm energy efficiency with practices and improvements identified in an approved energy audit equivalent to criteria required in Ag EMP?	Yes O or No O
8. c. Assist in implementing energy conservation measures that also reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants?	Yes O or No O
Business Lines - Conservation Implementation Additional Ranking Considerations - Will the proposed project result in:	
9. a. Implementation of all conservation practices scheduled in the contract on the CPA-1155 within three years of date of obligation?	Yes O or No O
9. b. Improvement of existing conservation practices or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is accepted?	Yes O or No O
9. c. Implementation of practice(s) which will complete an existing conservation system or suite of practices?	Yes O or No O

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering “Yes” to the following question. Answering “Yes” to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the state priority category.	
1. a Is the program application for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is “Yes”, do not answer any other state level questions. If answer is “No”, proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes O or No O
Choose the most appropriate response below regarding the location of the project with regard to EPA National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) designations for the area. Maximum points 45.	
2. a EQIP project is located in an area that has an EPA NAAQS non-attainment designation for PM2.5, PM10 and Ozone (all 3).	Yes O or No O
2. b EQIP project is located in an area that has an EPA NAAQS non-attainment designation for 2 out of 3 of these pollutants (PM2.5, PM10 and Ozone).	Yes O or No O
2. c EQIP project is located in an area that has an EPA NAAQS non-attainment designation for 1 out of 3 of these pollutants (PM2.5, PM10 and Ozone).	Yes O or No O
If the EQIP contract is located in an ozone nonattainment area, choose the most appropriate response below regarding the location of the project with regard to the EPA National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) ozone designation for the area. Maximum points 65.	
3. a EQIP project is located in EPA NAAQS Designation “Extreme” nonattainment area.	Yes O or No O
3. b EQIP project is located in EPA NAAQS Designation “Severe” or “Serious” nonattainment area.	Yes O or No O
3. c EQIP project is located in EPA NAAQS Designation “Moderate” or “Marginal” nonattainment area.	Yes O or No O
If the EQIP contract is located in a PM10 nonattainment or maintenance area, choose the most appropriate response below regarding the location of the project with regard to the EPA NAAQS PM10 designation for the area. Maximum points 65.	
4. a EQIP project is located in an area that is designated as serious nonattainment by the EPA for PM10 or is a PM10 maintenance area that was previously designated as serious nonattainment.	Yes O or No O
4. b EQIP project is located in an area that is designated as moderate nonattainment by the EPA for PM10.	Yes O or No O

Choose the most appropriate response below regarding the EQIP contract with regard to local or state air quality regulations that specifically address agricultural emissions. Maximum points 20.	
5. a EQIP project practice(s) address one or more local or state agriculturally-related air emissions regulatory requirements.	Yes O or No O
Choose the most appropriate response below regarding the potential for the EQIP contract to replace existing diesel engines used on farm - All retired engines must be destroyed according to requirements outlined in the Combustion System Improvement practice standard. Maximum points 65.	
6. a The EQIP project results in replacement of one or more existing diesel engine(s) with energy efficient electric motor(s).	Yes O or No O
6. b The EQIP project results in replacement of one existing pre-1980 diesel engine with the most current Tier-level diesel engine.	Yes O or No O
6. c The EQIP project results in replacement of one existing 1980 or newer diesel engine with the most current Tier-level diesel engine.	Yes O or No O
If the EQIP contract is located in an area where the applicant needs to address the PM-related resource concern select the statement below that best describes the practices included in this contract. (Refer to "Practice-Resource Concern Matrix) Maximum points 35.	
7. a EQIP contract includes at least one or more practices for PM that provide a high or significant environmental benefit.	Yes O or No O
7. b EQIP contract includes no high priority practices but does include one or more medium priority practices to address PM.	Yes O or No O
7. c EQIP contract includes no high or medium priority practices, but does include one or more low priority practices to address PM.	Yes O or No O
If the EQIP contract is located in an area where the applicant needs to address the Ozone-related resource concern select the statement below that best describes the practices included in this contract. (Refer to "Practice-Resource Concern Matrix) Maximum points 35.	
8. a EQIP contract includes at least one or more practices for Ozone that provides a high or significant environmental benefit.	Yes O or No O
8. b EQIP contract includes no high priority practices but does include one or more medium priority practices to address Ozone.	Yes O or No O
8. c EQIP contract includes no high or medium priority practices, but does include one or more low priority practices to address Ozone.	Yes O or No O
9. If the EQIP contract is also focused on ammonia emission reductions, select the statement below that best describes practices included in this contract. Maximum points 35.	
9. a EQIP contract includes at least one or more practices for ammonia that provides a high or significant environmental benefit.	Yes O or No O
9. b EQIP contract includes no high priority practices but does include one or more medium priority practices to address ammonia.	Yes O or No O
9. c EQIP contract includes no high or medium priority practices, but does include one or more low priority practices to address ammonia.	Yes O or No O
If the EQIP contract addresses green house gases (GHG) select the statement below that best describes the practices included in this contract. (Refer to "Practice-Resource Concern Matrix) Maximum points 35.	
10. a EQIP contract includes at least one or more practices for GHGs that provide a high or significant environmental benefit.	Yes O or No O
10. b EQIP contract includes no high priority practices but does include one or more medium priority practices to address GHGs.	Yes O or No O
10. c EQIP contract includes no high or medium priority practices, but does include one or more low priority practices to address GHGs.	Yes O or No O

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for	

the local priority category.	
1. 1a. Is the program application for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other state level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes O or No O
Other questions	
1. 1. Will this application utilize EQIP funds to implement a Basic Level of (590) Soil Health and Water Quality Conservation Management System? -OR-	Yes O or No O
2. 2. Will this application utilize EQIP funds to implement a Enhanced Level of (590) Soil Health and Water Quality Conservation Management System?	Yes O or No O
3. 3. Will this application utilize EQIP funds to implement cover crop (340) after low residue crops on acres offered in the application?	Yes O or No O
4. 4. Will this application utilize EQIP funds to install a Roofs and Cover (367)?	Yes O or No O
5. 5. Will this application utilize EQIP funds to install Drainage Water Management (554)?	Yes O or No O
6. 6. Will this application utilize EQIP funds to install a Windbreak/Sheltebelt Establishment (380) or a Windbreak/Shelterbelt Renovation (650)?	Yes O or No O

Land Use:

Resource Concerns	Practices

Ranking Score

Efficiency:

Local Issues:

State Issues:

National Issues:

Final Ranking Score:

This ranking report is for your information. It does not in any way guarantee funding. When funding becomes available, you will be notified if your application is selected for funding. Some changes to the application may be required before a final contract is awarded.

Notes:

NRCS Representative: **Signature Date:**	**Applicant Signature Not Required on this report for Contract Development unless required by State policy:** **Signature Date:**