

Part 512 – Construction

Subpart D – Quality Assurance Activities

§IA512.32 Quality Assurance (QA) procedures

- A.(1) A person with the appropriate engineering job approval authority is responsible for determining inspection needs for jobs approved by the field office staff.
- A.(2) The following guidelines will be used in determining the degree of inspection for a Class I, II, or III job:
- (i) Work being installed by a contractor:
 - 1. Is the contractor experienced in this type of work?
 - 2. Has his past work been satisfactory?
 - 3. Have all site conditions which may affect the job been determined?
 - 4. Have adequate plans been furnished and discussed with the contractor?
 - 5. Can the job be built without special knowledge other than that normally expected from contractors doing this type of work?
 - 6. Will all components of the practice be visible when the job is completed, or will the contractor's past performance give reasonable assurance that underground work will be installed correctly?

If the answer to any of these questions indicate that technical help is needed during construction, at least one inspection should be scheduled.

If the answers to the above questions indicate that no technical help is needed, no inspection need be made during construction. A final checkout will suffice or a certification of completion from the contractor may be accepted.

- (ii) Work being installed by the landuser:
 - 1. Has the landuser had any experience with this type of work?
 - 2. Does the result of similar work on the farm indicate that the landuser can install the practice without difficulty?
 - 3. Does the landuser have adequate equipment for the job?
 - 4. Does the job have any technical factors of a critical nature

- which the landuser might not understand or know about?
5. Have adequate plans been furnished and personally discussed with the landuser?
 6. Have specifications been personally explained to the landuser?
 7. Do site conditions indicate that difficult construction problems may be expected?
 8. Will any components of the practice be buried and not accessible after the job is completed?

If the answer to any of these questions indicates that technical help is needed during construction, a minimum of one inspection must be scheduled.

If the answers to the above questions indicate that no technical help is needed, no inspection need be made during construction. A final checkout will suffice.

A.(3) Class IV-V jobs

- (i) An Inspection Plan must be required for class IV and higher jobs. The Plan must include the level and frequency of inspection required for the major components of the project. The frequency of inspection must be sufficient to control all major technical factors of installation.
- (ii) Because of the wide variety and complexity of jobs, needed inspections may vary from one, two, or three inspections to almost daily spot inspections of certain jobs.

C. An Inventory of Skills must be completed for all Natural Resources Conservation Service personnel who may be involved in construction contracts as the Government Representative (GR), Contracting Officer's Representative (COR), or Inspector. The Inventory of Skills (IA-ENG-46 and IA-ENG-47) must be completed by the GR, COR, or Inspector and approved by their technical supervisor. A current copy of the Inventory of Skills must be attached to the Inspection Plan prior to approval by the Principal Technical Staff Member and the Assistant State Conservationist-Management. The forms may be found at the engineering forms section of the Iowa NRCS website.