

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service
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Subject: PGM – Groundwater Conservation EQIP Waiver

Date: February 12, 2009

To: All VA NRCS District Conservationists

File Code: 440

I am granting a waiver of the restriction on establishing a practice prior to EQIP contract approval. This waiver applies only to the Irrigation System-Micro (Code #441) and Irrigation System-Sprinkler (Code # 442) practices scheduled for installation for the 2009 planting season.

This waiver will be applied only to those who have completed a signed EQIP application prior to starting or implementing the respective Irrigation System practice. The irrigation systems covered by this waiver are for the 2009 planting season. Granting of this waiver does not guarantee that a contract will be funded or approved or that funds will be available to cover the costs of the irrigation systems. Applicants proceed at their own risk.

The irrigation system design must meet NRCS standards and specifications. There must be an irrigation history of at least two years for the fields where EQIP funds are used for irrigation equipment and the irrigation system must be managed with an Irrigation Water Management Plan.

Field offices are directed to maintain a copy of this letter in the contract file where a waiver is needed and to forward a copy to affected applicants who have requested a waiver.

/s/

JOHN A. BRICKER
State Conservationist

