**Quick Response Areas ONLY**
**Primary Resource Concerns–**
- **Water Quantity–Inefficient Water Use on Irrigated Land**
- **Water Quantity–Aquifer Overdraft**
- **Water Quantity–Inefficient Water Flows in Water Courses**

**Eligible Land Uses–**
- **Crop, Hay, Pasture**

**Additional Requirements for this Category–**
- **Must be located in a state designated Quick Response Area (QRA) and converting to non–irrigated land on ALL application acres.**
- **Producer reports to the Division of Water Resources (DWR) or water districts will be used to determine the benchmark condition of water use in the ag operation. Producers will furnish reports from the previous five years to determine the average benchmark condition, and each year during the contract to ensure a reduction in the ground and surface water use in the ag operation.**
- **Application Water Usage for the water right must meet or exceed the minimum use guideline of 66 percent. Of the years irrigated, the application acres must have been irrigated at an average rate of at least six-acre inches/acre/year.**
- **Producer must ensure proper wellhead protection to ensure groundwater protection.**
- **Producer will verify that water savings (water rights) will not be used elsewhere. All acres under the water right/well will be taken out of irrigation for the contract period.**

**State Issues–**

1. Answer the following question related to enrollment into a Groundwater Conservation Agreement with a Kansas Groundwater Management District (GMD) for conversions to non–irrigated:

   - The entire unit of concern (100 percent) will be enrolled into a Groundwater Conservation Agreement with a Kansas GMD, if the land is located in an eligible area. Applicant must sign agreement with the GMD prior to receiving any Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) payment and provide a copy of the GMD agreement to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). (400 points)

2. Answer the following question related to additional funding for this project:

   - Producer has secured funding for portions of this project from other contributors, which may include, but is not limited to the state of Kansas or GMDs. (200 points)

3. If applicable, answer ONE of the following seven questions related to Kansas Water Plan Priority Groundwater Decline Areas (if the application has multiple wells, points will only be taken for the highest priority well). If none apply the answers "NO":

   - (a) The point of diversion (well/water source) is located within a Kansas Water Plan Priority Groundwater Decline Area, Priority 1. (45 points)

   - (b) The point of diversion (well/water source) is located within a Kansas Water Plan Priority Groundwater Decline Area, Priority 2. (35 points)

   - (c) The point of diversion (well/water source) is located within a Kansas Water Plan Priority Groundwater Decline Area, Priority 3. (25 points)

   - (d) The point of diversion (well/water source) is located within a Kansas Water Plan Priority Groundwater Decline Area, Priority 4. (15 points)

4. If applicable, answer ONE of the following two questions related to Kansas Geological Survey (KGS) identified sensitive groundwater areas. If neither applies leave the answers "NO":

   - (a) Greater than or equal to 50 percent of the unit of concern is located within a KGS identified sensitive groundwater area. (20 points)

   - (b) Any part of the unit of concern, but less than 50 percent, is located within a KGS identified sensitive groundwater area. (15 points)

5. If applicable, answer ONE of the following two questions related to Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL). If none apply leave the answers "NO":

   - (a) Greater than or equal to 50 percent of the unit of concern is located within a Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) identified high priority TMDL watershed for eutrophication, dissolved oxygen, nutrients, and/or pesticides. (20 points)

   - (b) Any part of the unit of concern, but less than 50 percent, is located within a KDHE identified high priority TMDL watershed for eutrophication, dissolved oxygen, nutrients, and/or pesticides. (15 points)

6. If applicable, answer ONE of the following two questions related to Kansas Source Water Assessment Areas. If neither applies leave the answers "NO":

   - (a) Greater than or equal to 50 percent of the unit of concern is located within a Kansas Source Water Assessment Area. (20 points)

   - (b) Any part of the unit of concern, but less than 50 percent, is located within a Kansas Source Water Assessment Area. (15 points)

7. Answer the following question related to Intensive Groundwater Use Conservation Areas (IGUCAs):

   - Any part of the unit of concern is located in an IGUCA or a proposed IGUCA. (5 points)

8. Answer ONE of the following three questions related to application water usage: (Water Usage=Average Acres Irrigated [divided by] Authorized Acres. Only years that have been irrigated in the last five years will be averaged.)

   - (a) Application water usage, by water right, is at least 90 percent. (15 points)

   - (b) Application water usage, by water right, is between 80 and 89.9 percent. (10 points)

   - (c) Application water usage, by water right, is between 70 and 79.9 percent. (5 points)

9. EACH of the following questions MUST BE ANSWERED "YES" in order for this application to be considered eligible for this resource concern:

   - (a) The following requirements must be met:
     1. Producer reports to the DWR or water districts will be used to determine the benchmark condition of water use in the ag operation. Producer has furnished reports from the previous five years to determine the average benchmark condition. Producer will provide these reports to NRCS each year during the contract to ensure a reduction in the ground and surface water use in the ag operation.
     2. Producer will verify that water savings (water rights) will not be used elsewhere. All acres under the water right will be taken out of irrigation for the contract period.
     3. Producer must ensure proper wellhead protection to ensure groundwater protection. (1 point)

   - (b) Application Water Usage for the water right meets or exceeds the minimum use guideline of 66 percent. Of the years irrigated, the application acres were irrigated at an average rate of at least six-acre inches/acre/year. One hundred percent (100 percent) of application acres will be converted from irrigated to non–irrigated. (1 point)

**Local Issues –**

Answer the following questions related to the application:

- (1) Application includes at least one practice with a lifespan of 10 years or greater, as documented in the eFOTG. (5 points)
- (2) Practices are scheduled to be completed within four years. (5 points)
- (3) Participant requested a conservation plan for this application prior to August 31, 2011. (5 points)
- (4) Application was deferred from a previous funding period in the Program Contracts System (ProTracts) (5 points)