

PART 505 – NON-NRCS ENGINEERING SERVICES

SUBPART B – PROCEDURES

WA505.11 Non-TSP Providers

- (5) Reviews of non-TSP prepared engineering design documentation; construction plans, construction specifications, etc.
- (i.) A review is required of all non-TSP site specific design documentation, construction plans and specifications. The term “Functional Review” shall be used to convey the review procedure for submitted documents for review.
 - (ii.) An NRCS employee with the appropriate delegation of engineering job approval authority for “*Design*” for all applicable NRCS WA Practice Standards will be considered as technically competent in conducting functional reviews of non-NRCS engineering work.
 - (iii.) Functional reviews shall at a minimum ensure that the design documentation, plans and specifications comply with the following:
 - a. All pertinent WA NRCS practice standards,
 - b. All pertinent NEM and WA Supplement policy,
 - c. Compliance with Washington State Laws and regulations.
 - (iv.) The functional review will be the basis for determining if a technical design review according to National Engineering Manual 511.5 should be initiated. If a technical review of engineering work is deemed necessary then the NRCS employee conducting the review must possess the appropriate delegation of engineering job approval authority for “Design”. A technical review of non-NRCS engineering work shall be considered when:
 - a. The functional review indicates that a more detailed review is needed to ensure the technical quality of the design work,
 - b. NRCS staff have no knowledge of the experience and qualifications of the non-NRCS engineer,
 - c. NRCS staff has direct knowledge that the engineer providing the service does not have the technical expertise.
 - (v.) The Washington State Conservation Commission Agreement is routinely utilized within the State to accomplish engineering practice workload. Qualified NRCS staff are required to verify that Conservation District personnel being considered for providing engineering service is technically qualified and has the experience and skills necessary to provide the service with minimal NRCS support and oversight. At a minimum the Area Engineer, or their designee, shall ensure that the following is completed

- a. Verification of current Washington State Professional Engineering (P.E.) license.
- b. Complete a review of design documentation of completed work demonstrating technical competence for the needed services.
- c. Conduct an interview outlining the needs, standards and documentation requirements for the requested service.
- d. Review and approve the NRCS Statement of Work for the needed services.
- e. An NRCS Area Engineer has the authority to evaluate the technical needs and determined that the service necessary do not rise to the level of requiring a licensed engineer. If the determination is made that a Washington State Professional Engineering license is not needed for the service then WA 501.3(C)(4)(ii) shall not apply.

WA505.12 Conservation Contractors

Washington NRCS will accept the work of conservation contractors for low hazard on-farm irrigation systems and associated practices from Certified Irrigation Designers (CID). Low hazard for this purpose of irrigation systems is defined as engineering job class V or lower. The conservation contractor must follow Washington laws and regulations, including the practice of Professional Engineering. The practice of Professional Engineering may only be complete by individuals licensed in the state of Washington.

- (1) The design and installed quantities will be provided to the producer and NRCS by the conservation contractor. The installed quantities must be field verified by an individual with adequate engineering job approval authority for construction/install will complete the certification of quantities and installation of the project for conservation contractors in accordance with 210-501-M and WA450-407-GM.
- (2) Conservation contractors must be spot checked annually in accordance with Subpart C of 450-407-GM. At a minimum, each conservation contractor that provides services for landowners and land users on an NRCS sponsored project must have at least one (1) job designed and/or installed during the year. Conservation contractors that demonstrate deficient work will require all designs to be submitted to NRCS for technical review prior to implementation until the quality of work improves to an acceptable level. The CID credentials must be verified during the annual spot check of the conservation contractor's work.
- (3) Conservation contractors may be granted acceptance of their work throughout Washington by the State Conservation Engineer, designee, or by a review by a Supervisory Area Engineer, upon submitting at least two (2) work examples for technical review. The State Conservation Engineer will maintain a database of conservation contractors reviewed, completion of spot checks, and if the CID certification is current.