



FARM BILL DETERMINATION APPEALS PROCESS
for
Preliminary Technical Determinations

The preliminary (new) technical determinations will become final within 30 days unless you request one of the following appeal options:

1. Request an Informal Review

Our office will visit the site or have an office visit with you to review the basis for our preliminary technical determination, answer any questions you have concerning the determination, and gather additional information from you concerning the preliminary determination. If the determination is still adverse after reconsideration by the field office, then the case will be referred to the State Conservationist for review. The State Conservationist will then issue you a final technical determination. To request reconsideration, write to the NRCS State Conservationist at the following address and explain why you believe this determination is erroneous:

Thomas L. Morgart
State Conservationist
344 Merrow Road, Suite A Tolland, CT 06084
Telephone: (860) 871-4011

or

2. Request Mediation

Mediation is a process in which a trained, impartial person assists the parties to discuss issues, resolve concerns and come to their own mutually agreed upon resolution. Please note that you may have to pay all or part of the cost of mediation. You may request mediation by contacting the following service that covers Connecticut:

Connecticut Agricultural Mediation Program (CTAMP)
Quinnipiac University School of Law
Center on Dispute Resolution
275 Mt. Carmel Avenue, Mail Stop Code S
Hamden, CT 06518
Phone: 1-800-870-2577

or

3. Request Expedited Final Determination

Selection of this option waves your rights for review of the preliminary technical determination and provides you a final technical determination within 10 days (instead of the normal 30 days) of receipt of your letter by NRCS. Please contact your local USDA-NRCS office via email to request an expedited Final Determination.



FARM BILL DETERMINATION APPEALS PROCESS
for
Final Technical Determinations

1. **Appeal to the Farm Service Agency (FSA) County Committee (COC)** – You may appeal this program decision to the FSA COC by filing a written request no later than 30 calendar days after you receive a Final Technical Determination notice or when a Preliminary Determination becomes a Final Technical Determination pursuant to the FSA appeal procedures found at 7 CFR Part 780. If you appeal to the COC, you will have an informal hearing that you or your representative may attend either personally or by telephone. If the COC believes that the challenge to the NRCS determination is not frivolous, the COC will refer the case to the NRCS STC to review the determination. The COC decision must incorporate and be based upon the results of the NRCS STC review and subsequent determination. If you appeal this determination to the COC, you may later appeal an adverse determination of the COC to the NAD. To appeal, write to the COC, include a copy of the adverse decision notification letter, and explain why you believe this decision is erroneous to one of the following Farm Service Agency Committees below based on your county.

Tolland and Hartford Counties:

Farm Service Agency County Committee
100 Northfield Drive Floor 4
Windsor, CT 06095-4730
(860) 688-7725

Litchfield and Fairfield Counties:

Farm Service Agency County Committee
1185 New Litchfield Street
Torrington, CT 06790-6017
(860) 626-8852

New Haven and Middlesex Counties:

Farm Service Agency County Committee
97 Barnes Road
Wallingford, CT 06492-1885
(860) 269-6665

Windham County:

Farm Service Agency County Committee
71 Westcott Road
Danielson, CT 06239
(860) 779-0557

New London County:

Farm Service Agency County Committee
238 West Town Street
Norwich, CT 06360-2187
(860) 887-9941

2. **Appeal to the National Appeals Division (NAD)** – The appeal must be filed with a written request no later than 30 calendar days after you receive a Final Technical Determination notice or when a Preliminary Determination becomes a Final Technical Determination and include the reasons why you disagree with this decision. If you appeal to NAD, you will have a hearing that you or your representative may attend in person or by telephone. You may, rather, choose to request that a NAD hearing officer review the documents in your file, without a personal appearance, to see if the agency decision was correct. Once a hearing with NAD begins, you waive any rights you might have to reconsideration, appeal to FSA, and mediation. To appeal directly to NAD, mail your request to the following address:



United States Department of Agriculture

USDA National Appeals Division
Eastern Regional Office
Post Office Box 68806
Indianapolis, IN 46268-0806
www.nad.usda.gov

Phone: 1-800-541-0457 TTY: 1-800-791-3222 Fax: (317) 875-9674

You must send your written appeal to NAD and include a copy of the adverse decision notification letter. In addition, please provide NRCS STC with a copy of your appeal request at the following address:

Thomas L. Morgart State
Conservationist
344 Merrow Road, Suite A Tolland, CT
06084-3917
Telephone: (860) 871-4011