

**Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Application Ranking Questions  
FY19 On-Farm Energy**

**National Priorities Addressed**

Issue Questions	Responses
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering “Yes” to the following question. Answering “Yes” to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the national priority	
1. a. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is “Yes”, do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is “No”, proceed with evaluation to address the remaining	250 Point(s)
<b>Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply)</b>	
2. a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan	15 Point(s)
2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	10 Point(s)
2. c. Reducing impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides on land adjoining a designated “impaired water body” (TMDL, 303d listed waterbody, or other State designation)?	10 Point(s)
2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a “non-impaired water body”?	10 Point(s)
2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	10 Point(s)
<b>Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)</b>	
3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	15 Point(s)
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	10 Point(s)
3. c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	10 Point(s)
3. d. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm water use as a result of changing to crops with lower water consumptive use, the rotation of crops, or the modification of cultural operations?	10 Point(s)
<b>Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (select all that apply)</b>	
4. a. Meeting on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	10 Point(s)
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	10 Point(s)
4. c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	10 Point(s)
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	10 Point(s)
<b>Soil Health :- Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)</b>	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil “T”)?	10 Point(s)
5. b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and	10 Point(s)
<b>Wildlife Habitat – Will the proposed project improve wildlife habitat by: (select all that</b>	
6. a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern.	10 Point(s)
6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	10 Point(s)
6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	10 Point(s)

6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	10 Point(s)
Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project improve plant and animal communities by: (select all that apply)	
7. a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	10 Point(s)
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	10 Point(s)
Energy Conservation– Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that	
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	10 Point(s)
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	10 Point(s)
Business Lines – Will the practices to be scheduled in the “EQIP Plan of Operations”	
9. a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?	10 Point(s)

**State Issues Addressed**

Issue Questions	Responses
If the application is for the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering “Yes” to the following question. Answering “Yes” to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the State-	
1. a Is the program application for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP) for a TSP prepared Agricultural Energy Management Plan (128)? If answer is “Yes,” do not answer any other State-level questions. If answer is “No,” proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	400 Point(s)
With regard to applications containing energy efficiency practices (answer one of the following):	
2. a The application contains two or more core practices.	100 Point(s)
2. b The application contains at least one core practice and additional supporting	50 Point(s)
2. c The application contains only supporting practices.	0 Point(s)
Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by (select all that apply):	
3. a Implementing irrigation practices that reduce energy and reduce aquifer	50 Point(s)
3. b Implementing practices that recycle or reuse water?	50 Point(s)
Air Quality - Does the application contain projects that improve air quality by (answer one of the following):	
4. a Implementing energy practices that have been evaluated to reduce on-farm generated carbon dioxide (CO2) by 100,000 pounds or more?	100 Point(s)
4. b Implementing energy practices that have been evaluated to reduce on-farm generated carbon dioxide (CO2) by at least 75,000 pounds but less than 100,000	75 Point(s)
4. c Implementing energy practices that have been evaluated to reduce on-farm generated carbon dioxide (CO2) by at least 50,000 pounds but less than 75,000	50 Point(s)
4. d Implementing energy practices that have been evaluated to reduce on-farm generated carbon dioxide (CO2) by at least 25,000 pounds but less than 50,000	20 Point(s)
4. e Implementing energy practices that have been evaluated to reduce on-farm generated carbon dioxide (CO2) by at least 10,000 pounds but less than 25,000	10 Point(s)
4. f Implementing energy practices that have been evaluated to reduce on-farm generated carbon dioxide (CO2) by less than 10,000 pounds?	0 Point(s)
Use the “Energy Cost Efficiency Worksheet” to calculate the estimated energy cost efficiency value for the conservation practices in the EQIP Plan/Schedule of Operations. Answer one of the following questions:	
5. a Is the estimated energy cost efficiency 50 percent or more?	100 Point(s)

5. b Is the estimated energy cost efficiency between 30 and 50 percent?	50 Point(s)
5. c Is the estimated energy cost efficiency less than 30 percent?	25 Point(s)

**Local Issues Addressed**

<b>Issue Questions</b>	<b>Responses</b>
1. Is the program application for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP) for a TSP prepared Agricultural Energy Management Plan (128)? If answer is “Yes,” do not answer any other local level questions. If answer is “No,” proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	250 Point(s)
2. Answer only ONE of questions 2, 3, 4: Energy Conservation - Will the conservation practices proposed for EQIP funding reduce Headquarters energy use from the baseline condition by 10%-20%?	10 Point(s)
3. Answer only ONE of questions 2, 3, 4: Energy Conservation - Will the conservation practices proposed for EQIP funding reduce Headquarters energy use from the baseline condition by 21%-30%?	20 Point(s)
4. Answer only ONE of questions 2, 3, 4: Energy Conservation - Will the conservation practices proposed for EQIP funding reduce Headquarters energy use from the baseline condition by 31% or more?	30 Point(s)
5. Answer only ONE of questions 5, 6, 7: Energy Conservation - Will the conservation practices proposed for EQIP funding reduce Irrigation energy use from the baseline condition by 10%-20%?	10 Point(s)
6. Answer only ONE of questions 5, 6, 7: Energy Conservation - Will the conservation practices proposed for EQIP funding reduce Irrigation energy use from the baseline condition by 21%-30%?	20 Point(s)
7. Answer only ONE of questions 5, 6, 7: Energy Conservation - Will the conservation practices proposed for EQIP funding reduce Irrigation energy use from the baseline condition by 31% or more?	30 Point(s)
8. Answer only ONE of questions 8, 9, 10: Energy Conservation: Will the conservation practices proposed for EQIP funding reduce Nitrogen energy use from the baseline condition by 10%-20%?	10 Point(s)
9. Answer only ONE of questions 8, 9, 10: Energy Conservation: Will the conservation practices proposed for EQIP funding reduce Nitrogen energy use from the baseline condition by 21%-30%?	20 Point(s)
10. Answer only ONE of questions 8, 9, 10: Energy Conservation: Will the conservation practices proposed for EQIP funding reduce Nitrogen energy use from the baseline condition by 31% or more?	30 Point(s)
11. Answer only ONE of questions 11, 12, 13: Energy Conservation - Will the conservation practices proposed for EQIP funding reduce Tillage energy use from the baseline condition by 10%-20%?	10 Point(s)
12. Answer only ONE of questions 11, 12, 13: Energy Conservation - Will the conservation practices proposed for EQIP funding reduce Tillage energy use from the baseline condition by 21%-30%?	20 Point(s)
13. Answer only ONE of questions 11, 12, 13: Energy Conservation - Will the conservation practices proposed for EQIP funding reduce Tillage energy use from the baseline condition by 31% or more?	30 Point(s)
14. Answer only ONE of questions 14, 15, 16: Energy Conservation - Using the Oregon Water Savings Estimator will the conservation practices proposed for EQIP funding improve the system efficiency by 15%-25%?	10 Point(s)
15. Answer only ONE of questions 14, 15, 16: Energy Conservation - Using the Oregon Water Savings Estimator will the conservation practices proposed for EQIP funding improve the system efficiency by 26%-35%?	20 Point(s)

16. Answer only ONE of questions 14, 15, 16: Energy Conservation - Using the Oregon Water Savings Estimator will the conservation practices proposed for EQIP funding improve the system efficiency by 35% or more?	30 Point(s)
17. Will other energy conservation programs (Local, State, or Federal) be used to support energy conservation practices proposed for EQIP funding?	100 Point(s)

**Land Use:**

**Crop;**

**Farmstead;**

**Pasture;**

**Range;**

Resource Concerns	Practices
Inefficient Energy Use: Equipment and Facilities Inefficient Energy Use: Farming/Ranching Practices and Field Operations	Agricultural Energy Management Plan - Written
	Building Envelope Improvement
	Combustion System Improvement
	Conservation Crop Rotation
	Cover Crop
	FARMSTEAD ENERGY IMPROVEMENT
	Irrigation Ditch Lining
	Irrigation Pipeline
	Irrigation Reservoir
	Irrigation System, Microirrigation
	Irrigation System, Surface and Subsurfac
	Irrigation Water Management
	Lighting System Improvement
	Livestock Pipeline
	Pumping Plant
	Residue Mgmt, Reduced Till
	Residue Mgmt-No-Till
	Sprinkler System
Terrace	
Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment	