

Application Ranking Summary FY19 On-Farm Energy

National 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 category.	
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 questions in this section.	250 Point(s)
Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply)	
2. a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?	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)
Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	
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)
Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (select all that apply)	
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)
Soil Health :- Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
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 structure?	10 Point(s)
Wildlife Habitat – Will the proposed project improve wildlife habitat by: (select all that apply)	
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 apply)	
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” result in:	
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-level questions.	
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 practices.	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 overdraft?	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 pounds?	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 pounds?	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 pounds?	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 pounds?	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 Issue Questions	Responses
<p>Answer all that apply: The National screen tool will be used on all Energy applications that were received and completely eligible prior to the application cutoff. If this application did not receive a high priority, please stop and do not continue ranking. (Ranking medium priority applications need approval from the State Con). You may only tag practices in the ranking tool that are included in the uploaded AD-1155. All applications need to have an application cost prior to ranking. (not just an estimate) If the plan is competing in multiple pools, upload the toolkit plan to the application most likely to be funded prior to ranking. Plan maps will clearly identify all contracted CINs and use official NRCS NPPH symbols. Only award points for cons practices or activities that will be financially assisted in this EQIP contract. Changing or adjusting practices or extents after the application has been submitted for evaluation to achieve a better ranking score is not allowed in EQIP</p>	
<p>1. Will contracted practices assist the applicant in complying with at least one of the following: AFO/CFO, Tribal or Forest Practices Act laws and regulations, Water quality compliance on DOE designated water bodies, The Food Quality Protection Act? Identify: 5 Point(s)</p>	5 Point(s)
<p>2. Will the contract assist the applicant in implementing an existing comprehensive RMS plan (signed after 9/21/2008) that has been developed for the participant's entire Ag Operation(s)? (Forest Stewardship plan must meet the requirements for RMS to receive points) 15 Point(s)</p>	15 Point(s)
<p>3. If selected for contracting, this application will allow the participant to become a first time adopter using all of the planned practices included on the AD-1155. Consider adopted practices on all associated agricultural operation(s) that they are involved in. 30 Points</p>	30 Point(s)
<p>4. Answer YES if the State Conservationist has provided approval to rank applications for this pool that are screened as Medium and this application has been screened as such (medium). (No Lows)..... -200 Point(s)</p>	-200 Point(s)
<p>5. Degree of conservation benefit: There are CINs included in the application that only address a resource concern that already meets planning criteria. -100 Point(s)</p>	-100 Point(s)
<p>Tribal resource concern treatment:</p>	
<p>6. Regardless of location, do all of the practices treat a Tribal resource concern according to the TRA? https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/ma_in/wa/technical/ 5 Point(s)</p>	5 Point(s)
<p>Likelihood that applicant will complete and maintain contracted practices:</p>	
<p>7. The applicant did NOT properly operate and maintain previously cost-shared practices, or has prior EQIP contract(s) that have not stayed on schedule with the original AD-1155. Use applicant interviews, staff knowledge and ProTracts searches to make determination. This includes all participants applying as individuals and embedded members of entities, but excludes delays due to NRCS or are outside of the control of the participant. -50 Point(s)</p>	-50 Point(s)
<p>8. Applicant has been issued an NRCS-CPA-153 on a current or prior NRCS contract(s) (FY14-18). This includes all participants applying as individuals and embedded members of entities, but excludes delays due to NRCS or are outside of the control of the participant. Excludes approved..... -150 Point(s)</p>	-150 Point(s)
<p>9. Applicant has a current or past contract that needed to be modified due to a delay in implementation of their practice schedule. This includes all participants applying as individuals and embedded members of entities, but excludes delays due to NRCS or are outside of the control of the participant. -15 Point(s)</p>	-15 Point(s)

10. Cancelled contract: Applicant voluntarily requested cancellation of an obligated contract within the last three years. (FY16, FY17 or FY18) and the status of the cancellation hardship is not documented as being resolved. Example of a resolved hardship would be: The participant has fully recovered from the health issue which necessitated the cancellation. Re-applying in hopes to receive a higher cost-share rate, or hold-down, should not be considered resolving the cancellation hardship. 35 Point(s)	-35 Point(s)
11. Applicant was pre-approved for a contract during FY18 and chose to cancel prior to obligation. -50 Point(s)	50 Point(s)
12. Applicant has never had an NRCS contract terminated, or has never had an NRCS FA contract. This includes all participants applying as individuals and embedded members of entities.) 300 points	300 Point(s)
Contracted Practices:	
13. AD-1155 contains only practices that are identified on the current SHPO/THPO agreement as "Undertakings with little to no Potential to Affect Historic Properties". Or, CR has already been reviewed and approved by NRCS. No Potential to Affect Includes: 201, 315, 328, 329, 330, 340, 345, 353, 355, 367, 371, 372, 379, 399, 449, 450, 484, 511, 528, 554, 557, 587, 588, 590, 591, 592, 595, 629, 775, 521A, 521B, 521C, 521D, 589C. There are also 30 other practices that are included if certain criteria is met. Please consult the agreement at: https://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/ 50 Point(s)	50 Point(s)
14. Application has a livestock type tagged on the application home screen. Or, includes at least one of the following wildlife practices. • CP 327 – Conservation Cover • CP 390 – Riparian Herbaceous Cover • CP 391 – Riparian Forest Buffer • CP 395 – Stream Habitat Improvement and Management • CP 396 – Aquatic Organism Passage • CP 422 – Hedgerow Planting • CP 472 –Access Control • CP 580 – Streambank and Shoreline Protection • CP 643 – Restoration and Management of Rare or Declining Habitats • CP 644 – Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management • CP 645 – Upland Wildlife Habitat Management • CP 646 – Shallow Water Development and Management • CP 647 – Early Successional Habitat Development/Management • CP 657 – Wetland Restoration • CP 658 – Wetland Creation • CP 659 – Wetland Enhancement 30 points	30 Point(s)
15. AD-1155 contains only practices that are non-engineering. Or, designs have already been reviewed and approved by NRCS. Engineering practices include: 309 - 313 - 316 - 317 - 319 - 320 - 326 - 350 - 351 - 353 - 356 - 360 - 362 - 367 - 372 - 373 - 374 - 375 - 376 - 378 - 388 - 395 - 396 - 410 - 412 - 428 - 430 - 441 - 442 - 443 - 449 - 450 - 460 - 464 - 500 - 516 - 520 - 521A - 521B - 521C - 521D - 533 - 554 - 558 - 560 - 561 - 570 - 574 - 575 - 578 - 580 - 582 - 584 - 585 - 587 - 590 - 592 - 600 - 605 - 606 - 607 - 608 - 614 - 620 - 629 - 632 - 633 - 634 - 635 - 636 - 638 - 642 - 654 - 655 - 657 - 659 - 670 - 672 - 735 - 775. 20 Point(s) □□	20 Point(s)
16. AD-1155 contains all practices with an ESA determination of “no effect” in the CPA-52. Or, ESA consultation has already occurred and NRCS has received concurrence on the proposed practices from FWS or NMFS. 100 points	100 Point(s)
17. Application is associated with an ALE easement that requires a practice applied as per this plan to treat an endangered species and received points on their easement application ranking. 30 points	30 Point(s)
Energy	
18. Will the applicant move from a conventional/conservation tillage system of crop management to a more energy efficient system meeting NRCS 329 practice standard? 30	30 Point(s)
19. Is the applicant's power provider partnering with the implementation of these energy efficiency improvements by providing financial or technical assistance? 30	30 Point(s)
20. Do all of the scheduled practices have an average practice life span of 15 or more years? 30	30 Point(s)
Core Practices: Agricultural Energy Management Plan (128), Famstead Energy Improvement (374), Irrigation Water Management (449), Pumping Plant (533), Lighting System Improvement (670), Building Envelope Improvement (672),	

21. Supporting practices. Hold-down: (Cannot exceed the cost of the highest cost-shared core practice in contract) Structure for Water Control (587), Underground Outlet (620), Conservation Crop Rotation (328), Cover Crop (340), Irrigation Pipeline (430), Irrigation System, Microirrigation (441), Irrigation System, Sprinkler (442), Livestock Pipeline (516), Nutrient Management (590), Residue Mgmt, Mulch Till (345) Residue Mgmt-No-Till/Strip Till/Direct S (329), Spring Development (574), Structure for Water Control (587), Underground Outlet (620), Water Well (642), Watering Facility (614), Irr. Reservoir (436), Windbreak/Shelterbelt est. or renovation (380, or 650), Combustion system improvement (372)	0 Point(s)
Resource Concerns	
Inefficient Energy Use: Equipment and Facilities	
Building Envelope Improvement	
Combustion System Improvement	
Conservation Crop Rotation	
FARMSTEAD ENERGY IMPROVEMENT	
Lighting System Improvement	
Pumping Plant	
Structure for Water Control	
Underground Outlet	
Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment	
Windbreak/Shelterbelt Renovation	
Inefficient Energy Use: Farming/Ranching Practices and Field Operations	
Combustion System Improvement	
Conservation Crop Rotation	
Cover Crop	
Irrigation Pipeline	
Irrigation Reservoir	
Irrigation System, Microirrigation	
Irrigation Water Management	
Livestock Pipeline	
Nutrient Management	
Pumping Plant	
Residue Mgmt, Reduced Till	
Residue Mgmt-No-Till	
Spring Development	
Sprinkler System	
Structure for Water Control	
Underground Outlet	
Water Well	
Watering Facility	
Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment	
Windbreak/Shelterbelt Renovation	

Notes: Only award points for conservation practices or activities that will be financially assisted in this EQIP contract.