SUBJECT: PDM - Definition of Rural Communities for use in Determining Eligibility for Flood Prevention Projects to be Installed With Financial Assistance Provided by Public Law 83-566.

TO: All State Conservationists
NTC Directors
Watershed Program Managers

The 1990 Farm Bill amended PL 83-566, Section 2. (3), to require that all projects "...contain benefits directly related to agriculture, including rural communities, that account for at least 20 percent of the total benefits of the project". For the purposes of determining compliance with this provision of the law for flood prevention projects, the definition of rural communities will be the same as is currently being used by the Farmers Home Administration in defining rural areas for their Rural Development Grants Program. That definition is:

"... ALL TERRITORIES OF A STATE, THAT IS NOT WITHIN THE OUTER BOUNDARY OF ANY CITY HAVING A POPULATION OF 50,000 OR MORE, ACCORDING TO THE LATEST DECENNIAL CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES."

The term outer boundary is to be considered the city limits on the benefiting community.

This definition is to remain in effect until further notice.

Thomas H. Welni
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