

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

FY18 On-Farm Energy

Program: EQIP, Fiscal Year 2019, Sign-up 2019-1

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
<p>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.</p>	
<p>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.</p>	250 Point(s)
<p>Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply)</p>	
<p>2. a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?</p>	15 Point(s)
<p>2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?</p>	10 Point(s)
<p>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)?</p>	10 Point(s)
<p>2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a “non-impaired water body”?</p>	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)

<p>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:</p>	
<p>5. a Is the estimated energy cost efficiency 50 percent or more?</p>	<p>100 Point(s)</p>
<p>5. b Is the estimated energy cost efficiency between 30 and 50 percent?</p>	<p>50 Point(s)</p>
<p>5. c Is the estimated energy cost efficiency less than 30 percent?</p>	<p>25 Point(s)</p>

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Is the application for the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)--a Technical Service Provider (TSP)-prepared Agricultural Energy Management Plan (128)? If the answer is "Yes," do not answer any other local level questions. If the answer is "No," proceed with the remaining questions in this section.	250 Point(s)
2. Will this application result in the installation of one or more multi-row windbreaks designed to reduce energy use in all buildings identified as benefitting from this practice in the completed energy audit?	62 Point(s)
3. Will this application result in the installation of lighting improvements identified as being needed in all buildings, as documented in the completed energy audit?	62 Point(s)
4. Will this application result in the adoption of a 100% no-till system on all land identified in the completed energy audit?	64 Point(s)
5. Will this application result in the implementation of irrigation management on all cropland which is part of the completed energy audit?	62 Point(s)