

## PART 1466—ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVES PROGRAM

### Subpart A—General Provisions

#### Sec.

- 1466.1 Applicability.
- 1466.2 Administration.
- 1466.3 Definitions.
- 1466.4 Program requirements.
- 1466.5 Priority areas and significant state-wide natural resource concerns.
- 1466.6 Conservation plan.
- 1466.7 Conservation practices.
- 1466.8 Technical and other assistance provided by qualified personnel not affiliated with USDA.

### Subpart B—Contracts

- 1466.20 Application for contracts and selecting offers from producers.
- 1466.21 Contract requirements.
- 1466.22 Conservation practice operation and maintenance.
- 1466.23 Cost-share and incentive payments.
- 1466.24 Contract modifications and transfers of land.
- 1466.25 Contract violations and termination.

### Subpart C—General Administration

- 1466.30 Appeals.
- 1466.31 Compliance with regulatory measures.
- 1466.32 Access to operating unit.
- 1466.33 Performance based upon advice or action of representatives of CCC.
- 1466.34 Offsets and assignments.
- 1466.35 Misrepresentation and scheme or device.

AUTHORITY: 15 U.S.C. 714b and 714c; 16 U.S.C. 3839aa-3839aa-8.

SOURCE: 62 FR 28284, May 22, 1997, unless otherwise noted.

### Subpart A—General Provisions

#### § 1466.1 Applicability.

Through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) provides technical, educational, and financial assistance to eligible farmers and ranchers to address soil, water, and related natural resources concerns, and to encourage environmental enhancements, on their lands in an environmentally beneficial and cost-effective manner. The purposes of the program are achieved through the implementation of structural, vegetative, and land management practices on eligible land.

#### § 1466.2 Administration.

(a) Administration of EQIP is shared by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Farm Service Agency (FSA) as set forth below.

(b) NRCS shall:

(1) Provide overall program management and implementation leadership for EQIP;

(2) Establish policies, procedures, priorities, and guidance for program implementation, including determination of priority areas;

(3) Establish cost-share and incentive payment limits;

(4) Determine eligibility of practices;

(5) Provide technical leadership for conservation planning and implementation, quality assurance, and evaluation of program performance; and

(6) Make funding decisions and determine allocations of program funds.

(c) FSA shall:

(1) Be responsible for the administrative processes and procedures for applications, contracting, and financial matters, including allocation and program accounting; and

(2) Provide leadership for establishing, implementing, and overseeing administrative processes for applications, contracts, payment processes, and administrative and financial performance reporting.

(d) NRCS and FSA shall concur in establishing policies, priorities, and guidelines related to the implementation of this part.

(e) No delegation herein to lower organizational levels shall preclude the Chief of NRCS, or the Administrator of FSA, or a designee, from determining any question arising under this part or from reversing or modifying any determination made under this part that is the responsibility of their respective agencies.

(f) CCC may enter into cooperative agreements with other Federal or State agencies, Indian tribes, conservation districts, units of local government, and public and private not for profit organizations to assist CCC with implementation of this part.

#### § 1466.3 Definitions.

The following definitions shall apply to this part and all documents issued