

Farm Service Agency, USDA

§ 700.20

(ii) Population benefited by improved water quality.

(iii) Effects on the natural environment.

(iv) Additional beneficial uses of the waters that result from improvement of the water quality.

(3) Economic, and technical feasibility to control water quality problems within the life of the project, including:

(i) Size of the area and extent of BMPs needed.

(ii) Cost per participant and cost per acre or source for solution of problem.

(iii) Cost effectiveness of BMPs.

(iv) Adequacy of planned actions to meet the project's objectives.

(4) Suitability of the project for the experimental RCWP in the testing of programs, policies and procedures for the control of agricultural non-point source pollution, including:

(i) A project representative of a geographic area with significant water quality problems.

(ii) The potential of the project for monitoring and evaluation, including existing base line data.

(5) State, local and other input in the project area, including:

(i) Funds for cost-sharing general monitoring and technical assistance.

(ii) Commitment of local leadership to promote the program.

(iii) Commitment of farmers and ranchers to participate in RCWP.

(6) The project's contribution to meeting the national water quality goals taking into consideration of other major sources of pollutants which affect the water quality in or near the project area.

(b) Based on the project application, the NCC is to recommend an upper limit of the Federal contribution to the total cost of the project. This includes both BMP cost-share and technical assistance costs.

(c) All project applications will be reviewed by EPA. BMPs approval for funding require EPA concurrence, except that the Secretary may assume EPA's concurrence, if EPA does not act within 15 days following receipt of the request for concurrence.

(d) The Secretary will approve projects for funding taking into consideration the recommendations of the NCC

and consultation with EPA. The Chairperson, State ASC Committee, through the SCC, will assure that involved Federal, State, and local agencies are informed of the project approval.

§ 700.15 Transfer of funds.

(a) Upon approval of a project, the Administrator, FSA, will transfer funds to the State(s) ASC Committee for funding the project. The State committee will transfer funds to the County ASC Committee(s) for the county or counties in an approved project.

(b) FSA will transfer funds to the applicable agency or organization providing specific technical assistance and/or expanded information and education. The transfer will be made on a project by project basis.

[45 FR 14009, Mar. 4, 1980, as amended at 46 FR 29454, June 2, 1981]

§ 700.16 Termination of project funding.

(a) Based on evidence of failure to accomplish the approved project objectives, including inadequate level of participation, the Administrator, FSA, may issue a termination notice after conferring with the Administrator, EPA, and the NCC.

(b) The State ASC Committee shall give 10-day written notice to the applicable County ASC Committee of intent to terminate project funding. The termination shall establish the effective date of termination and the date for return of funds.

(c) After receipt of a project termination, the County ASC Committee shall not make any new commitments or enter into any new RCWP contracts. Those contracts in force at the time of project termination will remain in force until completed.

Subpart C—Participant's RCWP Contracts

§ 700.20 Eligible land.

RCWP is only applicable to privately owned agricultural lands in approved project areas. Indian tribal lands and lands owned by irrigation districts are eligible lands.