

§755.2

(f) *Director* means the Director or Acting Director of the Farmer Programs Division, Farm Service Agency, United States Department of Agriculture.

(g) *State* means any one of the States in the Appalachian Region.

(h) *State committee* means the persons in a State designated by the Secretary as the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation State Committee under section 8(b) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, as amended.

(i) *County* means a political subdivision of a State identified as a county.

(j) *County committee* means the persons elected within a county as the county committee pursuant to regulations governing the selection and functions of Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation county and community committees under section 8(b) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, as amended.

(k) *Operator* means the person who is in charge of the supervision and conduct of the farming operations on the entire farm.

(l) *Occupier* means any person other than the owner or operator who has an interest as tenant or sharecropper in the acreage covered by the contract.

(m) *Farm* means that area of land defined as a farm under the regulations governing Reconstitution of Farms, Allotments, and Bases, part 719 of this chapter, as amended, or, for purposes of contracts entered into pursuant to §755.20, the land covered by the contract.

(n) *Cropland* means that land considered as cropland under the regulations governing Reconstitution of Farms, Allotments, and Bases, part 719 of this chapter, as amended.

(o) *Contract* means a Cost-Share Contract, Appalachian Land Stabilization and Conservation Program.

(p) *Commission* means the Appalachian Regional Commission which is composed of one Federal member (Federal Cochairman) and one member from each participating State in the Appalachian region.

(q) *Federal Cochairman* means the Federal Cochairman of the Appalachian Regional Commission.

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(r) *State Cochairman* means the State Cochairman of the Appalachian Regional Commission as elected by the State members of the Commission from among their number.

[30 FR 8669, July 9, 1965, as amended by Amdt. 2, 30 FR 14099, Nov. 9, 1965; Amdt. 4, 33 FR 16141, Nov. 5, 1968; Amdt. 5, 35 FR 8442, May 29, 1970]

§755.2 Purposes and objectives.

The general purposes and objectives of the Appalachian Land Stabilization and Conservation Program are to promote economic growth of the Region and to promote the conservation and development of the Region's soil and water resources. This program is a long-term program designed to carry out the policy of the Act by assisting landowners, operators, or occupiers through contracts providing for land stabilization, erosion and sediment control, reclamation through changes in land use, and the establishment of practices and measures for the conservation and development of the Region's soil, water, woodland, wildlife, and recreation resources.

§755.3 Geographical applicability.

The Appalachian Land Stabilization and Conservation Program will be limited to the States and counties designated as part of the Appalachian Region as defined in §755.1 of the regulations of this part, and then only in counties or areas specifically approved in the State program developed hereunder.

§755.4 General.

(a) The Appalachian Land Stabilization and Conservation Program will be administered in the field by State and county committees under the general direction and supervision of the Administrator. Members of county committees are hereby authorized to sign contracts on behalf of the Secretary. State and county committees do not have authority to modify or waive any of the provisions of these regulations, or any amendment, supplement, or revision thereto.

(b) Landowners, operators, and occupiers desiring to share in the accomplishment of the purposes and objectives of the program will be given an

opportunity to participate in the program in accordance with the provisions of the program as set forth in this subpart. An applicant, as a part of his application for assistance, will file an acceptable conservation and development plan for the acreage to be included in his contract, and the measures specified in the plan must be carried out irrespective of whether cost-sharing is offered. The county committee will determine the practices and extent of such practices to be approved for cost-sharing to assist the applicant in carrying out his acceptable plan. A contract shall be entered into setting forth the extent of the approved assistance. An acceptable conservation and development plan will be a plan developed for the land proposed to be placed under contract, on a form prescribed by the Administrator, with technical planning assistance by technicians of the Soil Conservation Service, except in cases where the proposed treatment involves only a single practice of pasture renovation or timber stand improvement or conversion of less than 10 acres of land to grass or trees and such use does not involve critical areas or unusual costs and the conservation and development plan is acceptable to the county committee. In approving contracts, the county committees shall give preference to needy landowners, operators, and occupiers to the extent that such preference is consistent with the development of land treatment programs in the project area.

(c) Detailed information concerning the program as it applies to an individual farm may be obtained from the county FSA office for the county in which the farm is located or from the State FSA office.

[30 FR 8669, July 9, 1965, as amended by Amdt. 4, 33 FR 16141, Nov. 5, 1968]

§ 755.5 State programs.

(a) The State program shall be developed by the State or a political subdivision thereof in accordance with the regulations contained in this subpart. The Farm Service Agency and other applicable agencies of the Department of Agriculture shall cooperate with the State governmental officials in the development of the program. The chairman of the State committee as the

chairman of the State Agricultural Conservation Program Development Group shall be the point of contact with the State governmental officials. The State Agricultural Conservation Program Development Group, which consists of the State ASC Committee (including the State Director of Extension), the State conservationist of the Soil Conservation Service, and the Forest Service official having jurisdiction over farm forestry in the State, shall consult with organizations and agencies within the State that have conservation interests and responsibilities. Upon request of the Governor of the State, a person selected as a direct representative of the Governor may be designated by the Secretary as an additional member of the ACP Development Group with equal authority with other members of the Group in the development of the State program.

(b) The State program shall include the following provisions: (1) Identification of program objectives and areas in the State where the program will be applicable; (2) the designation of practices for which cost-share assistance is requested for each designated area, including specifications for each proposed practice; and (3) the proposed cost-share rates for each practice.

(c) Minimum specifications which practices must meet to be eligible for Federal cost-sharing shall be set forth in the State program, or be incorporated therein by specific reference to a standard publication or other written document containing such specifications. For practices involving the establishment or improvement of vegetative cover, the specifications shall include, where appropriate, liming fertilization, and seeding rates, eligible seeds and mixtures, seeding dates, requirements for cultural operations and inoculation, and other steps essential to the successful establishment or improvement of the vegetative cover. For mechanical or construction type practices, the specifications shall include, where appropriate, the types and sizes of material, installation or construction requirements, and other steps essential to the proper functioning of the structure. For other practices, the specifications shall include those steps essential to the successful performance