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RECEIVED MAR 04 2009

Telefax Transmission Cover Sheet

Date: Feb 17, 2009

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Transmission to: _____

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Fax Number: 1(202)720-4265

Number of Pages (including this sheet): 2

Messages: N/A

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Docket # NRC-IFR-08005

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is to provide comment on the new 2008 EQIP rule that became effective January 15, 2009. As a representative of the Fredonia Natural Resource Conservation District (FNRCD) located in Fredonia Arizona, we as a District have supported the EQIP program which we believe addresses our areas resource concerns.

The majority of the land within the District boundaries is Public land and less than 5% is Private land. Many of our agriculture producers have operations that consist of only Public and State owned lands. We understand eligible land in the new rule to include:

1. Privately owned land;
2. Publicly owned land where;
 - (i) The land is a working component of the participant's agricultural and forestry operation, and
 - (ii) The participant has control of the land for the term of the contract, and
 - (iii) The conservation practices to be implemented on the Public land are necessary and will contribute to any improvements in the identified resource concern that is on Private land.

As a representative of the FNRCD, the District asks that this be interpreted or changed to include State owned land as well as Private land.

Without this change, many of our agriculture producers would not have land eligible for the program and resources concerns that exist on these lands will increase and will not be addressed. By allowing inclusion of State owned land, States with lesser amounts of privately owned land have more equitable opportunity to participate in EQIP and realizing the benefits that the program has to offer.

Respectfully Submitted

Danny Bullets, Jr.