

**Attachment B**

**Screening Criteria Requirements:**

The following screening criteria shall be used to support this initiative.

**NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)  
National On-Farm Energy Initiative  
NATIONAL SCREENING CRITERIA WORKSHEET - Fiscal Year 2013**

**A Screening Worksheet must be completed for each eligible EQIP application.**

Instructions:

This screening worksheet must be completed for each eligible producer applying for EQIP On-Farm Energy Initiative assistance. Applications will be accepted on a continuous basis; however, application periods are established for purposes of evaluation, ranking, and funding decisions.

Completion of this worksheet and documentation does not constitute agreement to provide EQIP program benefits nor approval of a program contract. The original screening worksheet should be filed with the applicant case file or EQIP program file and unless the application is determined to be ineligible, the screening priority (high, medium, and low) must be recorded in ProTracts. Upon request, a copy of any completed screening worksheet may be provided to the applicant.

**Detailed Screening Criteria Worksheet – Complete for each eligible EQIP Applicant**

Applicant Name:		County:	
Application No:		Field Office:	
Evaluator Name:		Date:	

**Priority Determination for ProTracts – Select One:**

**High Priority Category:**

The application is for an Agricultural Energy Management Plan (122 or 124);

Or

The application includes at least 1 “Core” conservation practice necessary to implement the recommendations identified in a recently (within the last 4 years) completed Agricultural Energy Management Plan (122 or 124) or comprehensive on-farm energy audit meeting ASABE S612 Type 2 standard.

**High Priority  
Status in  
ProTracts**

**Medium Priority Category:**

The application includes 0 “Core” conservation practices but does include at least 1 “Supporting” conservation practice necessary to implement the recommendations identified in a recently (within the last 4 years) completed Agricultural Energy Management Plan (122 or 124) or comprehensive on-farm energy audit meeting ASABE S612 Type 2 standard.

**Medium  
Priority Status  
in ProTracts**

**Low Priority Category:** Low Priority Applications will not be ranked.

All other applications

**Low Priority  
Status in  
ProTracts**

The priority determination of high, medium or low must be recorded in ProTracts for this applicant.

D.C. Approval:		Date Approved:	
----------------	--	----------------	--

**Core and Supporting Practices are found in matrix on back side of this screening form.**

2013 National Energy Initiative Core and Supporting Practices

NRCS Approved Resource Concerns		Inefficient Energy Use - Equipment and Facilities Energy		Inefficient Energy Use – Farming/Ranching Practices and Field Operations	
NRCS Natural Resource Concern Categories for ProTracts Application, Evaluation, and Ranking Tool (AERT) "C" = Core practice (Bold) required to be offered. "X" -Supporting practices are optional to be offered. "N/A" are not applicable		Equipment and Facilities Energy	Rationale	Farming/Ranching Practices and Field Operations	Rationale
Conservation Practice	Code				
Agricultural Energy Management Plan -Headquarters	122	N/A		N/A	
Agricultural Energy Management Plan -Landscape	124	N/A		N/A	
Farmstead Energy Improvement	374	<b>C</b>	Identified in AgEMP-HQ or On-Farm Energy Audit	N/A	
Conservation Crop Rotation	328	N/A		X	Inclusion of legumes in crop rotation can reduce need for nitrogen inputs
Cover Crop	340	N/A		X	Legume cover crops can reduce nitrogen inputs
Irrigation Reservoir	436	N/A		X	Allows for off peak or night time irrigation, will can result in reduced energy use for pumping
Irrigation Water Management	449	N/A		<b>C</b>	Improvement of Irrigation Efficiency can result in reduced energy use for pumping
Pumping Plant	533	<b>C</b>	Identified in AgEMP-HQ or On-Farm Energy Audit	<b>C</b>	Identified in AgEMP-Landscape and Efficient pumping plant reduces energy use
Residue and Tillage Management, Mulch Till	345	N/A		X	Few tillage trips across the field and Less horsepower requirements
Residue and Tillage Management, No Till/ Strip Till/ Direct Seed	329	N/A		X	No tillage operations, fewer trips across the field
Residue and Tillage Management, Ridge Till	346	N/A		X	Fewer tillage passes and less aggressive tillage
Windbreak/ Shelterbelt Establishment	380	X	Reduces heating around farmsteads	N/A	