UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency Washington, DC 20250

For: State and County Offices

Deleting Invalid Conservation Online System (COLS) Offers

Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs

Bradley Karmen

1 Overview

A Background

The 2014 Farm Bill provides that the statutory enrollment authority for CRP is limited to 24 million acres beginning FY 2017. Many offers are processed through COLS that do not become contracts or are not approved as contracts within 6 months of the offer date. It is important that the offer and contract data is as up-to-date as possible so that accurate enrollment and allocation data is available. Therefore, deleting some offers in COLS is necessary.

According to 2-CRP, subparagraph 213 B, CRP-1's not approved within 6 months of the date the producer signs the CRP-1 (offer) shall be rejected.

Further, 2-CRP, Exhibit 5, CRP-23, provides that offers will be void if CRP-1 is not approved within 6 months of the date the producer signs the CRP-2C.

B Purpose

This notice provides:

- instructions for reviewing and updating offers in COLS that:
 - currently have a submitted signature date older than 6 months
 - are within 45 days of having a submitted signature date of 6 months
- the location of the CRP Submitted Offer Reports.

Disposal Date	Distribution
March 1, 2017	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

2 COLS Submitted Offer Reports

A Submitted CRP Offers More Than 180 Days Old

A report, Submitted CRP Offers More Than 180 Days Old, has been posted that contains a list of CRP offers that reside in COLS that were submitted more than 180 days ago with no COC approval date entered (not an active contract). County Offices shall use this one-time report to verify and immediately approve all eligible offers (if approved on paper before they reached 180 days old) no later than September 16, 2016. Kansas City (KC) will execute a one-time deletion of any offers left unapproved (COC approval date not entered before the deadline) from the system. Once the offers are deleted there will be no way to restore them. If the producer wishes to continue with this offer, the County Office will need to reenter the offer.

Note: In this one time instance, no action is required to delete offers left unapproved as KC will be deleting these offers.

B Submitted CRP Offers Between 135 and 180 Days Old

A report, Submitted CRP Offers between 135 and 180 Days Old, has been posted that contains a list of CRP offers that reside in COLS that were submitted between 135 and 180 days ago with no COC approval date entered (not an active contract). This report will be generated and posted on a monthly basis until COLS software is enhanced to prevent offers older than 6 months from being approved. Counties shall use this report to verify and take appropriate action on offers that are 45 days from being 6 months old.

C Report Location

Both CRP submitted offer reports will be posted to the CRP SharePoint site at https://sharepoint.fsa.usda.net/states/cepd/crp/Reports/Forms/AllItems.aspx.

3 Action

A State Office Action

State Offices shall ensure that County Offices are notified of the contents of this notice.

3 Action (Continued)

B County Office Action

By close of business on September 16, 2016, County Offices shall:

- have reviewed and approved all eligible offers found on the report listed in subparagraph 2 A that:
 - have a completed and approved conservation plan
 - meet all eligibility and signature criteria
 - are within the acre allocation limit
- monitor offers found on the report listed in subparagraph 2 B monthly and approve or manually delete offers where necessary. This includes offers that the producer has indicated they do not wish to continue with.

In cases where offers were initiated in COLS, does not have an approved Conservation Plan, and the producers wants to continue with an offer older than 6 months, the old offer must be deleted and a new offer must be submitted.

Procedure for approving and deleting an offer in COLS can be found in the COLS user guide located at https://sharepoint.fsa.usda.net/states/cepd/userguides/default.aspx.

Exception: For General Signup offers, the software will not allow any offer to be deleted. For SU200 CRPG offers, do **not** delete an offer in a "Rejected" status if the producer has requested it remain available for the next announced ranking period.

4 Contacts

A State Offices

If there are policy questions about this notice, State Offices shall contact Beverly Preston, CRP Program Analyst, by either of the following:

- e-mail to beverly.preston@wdc.usda.gov
- telephone at 202-720-9563.

If there are automation questions about this notice, State Offices shall contact Gina Smith, Agricultural Program Specialist, by either of the following:

- e-mail to gina.smith@wdc.usda.gov
- telephone at 816-823-4247.

B County Offices

If there are questions about this notice, County Offices shall contact the State Office.