

For: State and County Offices

CED Authority to Approve Certain CRP-1's

Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

A Background

Notice CRP-443 provides that all CRP-1's must be approved and entered into the System/36 by September 30, 2003. Given the relatively late announcement of general signup acceptable offers, State and County Offices recently reported complications in approving acceptable CRP signup 26 offers by the September 30, 2003, deadline. Further, some County Offices are reporting excessive workload requirements because of, in part, continuous, CREP, and EQIP offers. State and County Offices are requesting additional time to process and approve signup 26 accepted offers.

B Purpose

This notice provides authority to CED's to approve, on a case-by-case basis, certain CRP-1's. The effective date of these contracts will be the first of the month after contract approval, similarly to 2-CRP, paragraph 126.

2 Approving CRP-1's

A CED Authority

CED's are authorized, on a case-by-case basis, to approve CRP-1's if the offer is a timely filed signup 26 offer, is acceptable, and could not be approved by the September 30, 2003, deadline. Approval authority is limited to those acceptable CRP offers for contracts with an otherwise effective date of October 1, 2003, which could not be approved by September 30, 2003.

Important: CED authority to approve CRP-1's ends **COB October 31, 2003.**

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| Disposal Date | Distribution |
| December 1, 2003 | State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices |

Notice CRP-449

2 Approving CRP-1's (Continued)

B Contracts Approved After September 30, 2003

All CRP-1's must be for a minimum duration of 10 years and shall not exceed 15 years.

Therefore, offers submitted to become effective October 1, 2003, which were not approved by September 30, 2003, may be approved:

- according to Notice CRP-443 by CED between October 1 and October 31, 2003
- for 10 years and 11 months.

Notes: The first year annual rental payment will be a prorated payment. The remaining 10 annual rental payments would be made after October 1 of each applicable year.

Offers originally submitted for longer contract lengths shall retain the offered expiration contract date.

A future software enhancement will be issued to allow for contract effective dates other than October 1.

3 Action

A County Office Action

COC's shall submit all CRP-1's with an effective date of October 1, 2003, not approved by September 30, 2003, to CED for review and approval.

COC is not authorized to approve CRP-1's after COB September 30, 2003.

B State Office Action

State Offices shall provide a copy of this notice to the NRCS State Office.

C CED Action

CED may approve offers under the authority of this notice from October 1, 2003, through COB October 31, 2003.