

For: State and County Offices

Temporary Change to Required Onsite Inspections for ECP

Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

A Background

ECP onsite inspections are made to determine if the damage met ECP requirements. The ECP regulations currently require an onsite inspection on all ECP applications received.

B Purpose

This notice provides State and County Office the following policy:

- identifying which ECP applications will require an initial onsite inspection
- procedure for determining which ECP applications will be spot checked onsite.

C Contact

If there are questions about this notice:

- County Offices shall contact the State Office
- State Offices shall contact Jim Williams by either of the following:
 - e-mail at **jim.williams@wdc.usda.gov**
 - telephone at 202-720-9562.

Disposal Date	Distribution
July 1, 2012	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

Notice ECP-65

2 Policy

A ECP Initial Onsite Inspection Policy

FSA will temporarily change the existing procedure in 1-ECP and only require initial onsite inspections for ECP applications where the estimated payment is higher than \$5,000. County Offices will still be required to perform a limited spot check of 5 percent for those applications below \$5,000.

This policy will in most cases reduce County Office travel and administrative expenses related to onsite inspections. Despite this reduced number of onsite inspections, FSA will still be performing mandatory pre-approval inspection visits on applications that receive approximately 40 to 60 percent of all ECP cost share funds.

Note: Onsite inspections are required for USDA or County Office employees according to 1-ECP, subparagraphs 171 A and 179 A.

3 Action

A County Office Action

Until further notification, County Offices shall, for all ECP applications where the producers total requested:

- cost share is above \$5,000, continue to perform an initial onsite inspections according to 1-ECP and document onsite inspections according to 1-ECP, paragraph 171
- cost-share amount is \$5,000 or less, spot check 5 percent of these applications and document onsite inspections according to 1-ECP, paragraph 171.

Note: Onsite inspections are required for USDA or County Office employees according to 1-ECP, subparagraphs 171 A and 179 A.

B State Office Action

State Offices shall ensure that County Offices follow the procedure and policy in this notice.