

**For:** State and County Offices

**Extending Active ECP Signups and Performance Reporting Deadlines  
Impacted by the Federal Government Shutdown**

**Approved by:** Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



**1 Overview**

**A Background**

Many ECP signup periods were impacted by the Federal Government shutdown, from October 1 through 16, 2013. Because FSA offices were closed during the shutdown, potential ECP applicants may not have benefited from a complete ECP signup period established by COC's. To ensure that all producers have adequate time to apply for ECP benefits or certify performance of approved practices, COC's are instructed to extend ECP signup and performance periods impacted by the Federal Government shutdown.

**B Purpose**

This notice:

- authorizes COC's to extend any ECP signup periods and performance reporting deadlines that were active during October 1 through 16, 2013, by an additional 30 days
- provides instructions for extending signup and performance reporting deadlines.

**2 Policy**

**A Extending Signup Deadlines**

If at least 1 day of COC established ECP signup or performance period fell during the Federal Government shutdown, from October 1 through 16, 2013, COC's shall:

- extend the ECP signup period and performance reporting dealines an additional 30 days
- publicize the signup extension using normal means.

**Note:** The 30 day extension may result in some ECP signup periods being longer than 60 days; however, ECP-PM approval is **not** required for those impacted by the Federal Government shutdown.

Disposal Date	Distribution
January 1, 2014	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

## Notice ECP-70

### 3 Action

#### A County Office Action

County Offices shall establish signup periods according to 1-ECP, paragraph 152.

#### B State Office Action

State Offices must ensure that County Offices follow the provisions of this notice and 1-ECP.

### 4 Contact

#### A State Offices

If there are policy questions about this notice, State Offices shall contact ECP-PM, by either of the following:

- Martin Bomar by:
  - e-mail at **[martin.bomar@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:martin.bomar@wdc.usda.gov)**
  - telephone at 202-205-4537
  
- Michelle Proctor by:
  - e-mail at **[michele.proctor@wdc.usda.gov](mailto:michele.proctor@wdc.usda.gov)**
  - telephone at 202-720-6853.

#### B County Offices

County Offices shall contact the State Office for questions about this notice.