

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Farm Service Agency  
Washington, DC 20250

**Notice ECP-87**

**For:** State and County Offices

**Authorization of Portable Pumps for Drought, Severe Storms, Floods, and Hurricanes**

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



**1 Overview**

**A Background**

During periods of severe drought, practice EC6 (Drought) provides assistance to producers in designated counties to address water conservation and enhancement measures to:

- enable grazing of range, pasture, or forage by livestock
- provide emergency water for livestock operations.

Current policy provides that only permanently installed, submersible pumps are authorized and eligible to receive ECP cost share assistance.

**Note:** Notice ECP-82 authorized portable pumps for EC6 Drought.

**B Purpose**

This notice:

- authorizes approval of cost share for portable pumps under:
  - EC4 for restoring conservation structures and other installations to remove standing flood waters from cropland
  - EC6 for drought to provide water for livestock

Disposal Date	Distribution
January 1, 2024	State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices and NRCS State Offices

**1 Overview (Continued)**

**B Purpose (Continued)**

- provides:
  - authorization and applicability of portable pumps
  - portable pump requirements
  - agency roles and responsibilities
  - automation procedure within the Cost Share Software (CSS)
  - State and County Office actions.

**2 Portable Pump Authorization, Requirements, Roles, and Waiver Procedure**

**A COC Authorization**

COC's are authorized to approve cost share for portable pumps related to:

- EC4 for severe storms, floods, and hurricanes
- EC6 for drought.

**B Portable Pump Requirements**

This notice authorizes cost share assistance for portable pumps under practices EC4 and EC6 when **all** of the following apply:

- the ECP implementation was approved for any drought, severe storm, flood, or hurricane to address damage, and the county has an active ECP signup

**Note:** The authorization of portable pumps is retroactive and applies to any drought, severe storm, flood, or hurricane designations that occur on or after October 1, 2022.

- for EC4, the use of a portable pump is authorized to pump standing water off cropland to existing ditches or canals, as determined needed and feasible by NRCS or Technical Service Provider, and will not result in noncompliance with HELC and WC requirements described in 6-CP
- for EC6, the portable pump will serve and facilitate access to a water source that is tested and approved safe for livestock use before FSA-848A approval.

**Note:** Cost share is not authorized for water source testing.

## 2 Portable Pump Authorization, Requirements, Roles, and Waiver Procedure (Continued)

### C Agency Roles and Responsibilities

NRCS and FSA will follow the national Memorandum of Agreement to determine responsibilities of each agency. Technical responsibility for practice EC4 is the responsibility of NRCS. For practice EC6, State Offices will follow the applicable State agreement between FSA and NRCS for technical responsibility.

NRCS, as the technical agency for EC4 (and EC6, as applicable), will:

- complete a needs determination

**Notes:** List what is needed and feasible in FSA-848, page 2, items 14 and 16.

A request for a portable pump does **not** guarantee approval.

- complete NRCS-CPA-52, Sections A through N as part of the planning process.

FSA, as the responsible Federal agency, will:

- document **depth of** previous ground disturbance when accepting FSA-848
- complete required natural or cultural resource consultations
- verify permits are in place, where applicable
- complete NRCS-CPA-52, Sections O through S to complete environmental compliance for the project, if NRCS has technical responsibility
- complete FSA-850 if FSA has technical responsibility.

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### 3 Automation Procedure Within CSS

#### A Payment Scenarios for Portable Pumps

Portable pumps may be purchased or rented. Implementation of ECP flood may only require using a portable pump for a short period of time, whereas implementation of ECP drought may require using a portable pump for a longer period of time. Portable pumps should be selected for the local conditions, what is needed and feasible, and will be the least cost to the government.

- **Purchased** – A payment scenario for a purchased portable pump is available under practice code 533, Pumping Plant in Program Provisioning. County Offices will:
  - select the appropriate payment scenario that matches the FY of the disaster ID and State FIPS code
  - copy the scenario to their list in Program Provisioning.

**Note:** The payment scenario for a portable pump is FYST533010 – Tractor Power Take Off Pump.

- **Rented** – Requests for rental portable pump payment scenarios will be submitted to the ECP Program Manager on the [Conservation Division Correspondence SharePoint site](#). Requests must include cost documentation and recommendation provided by the requesting STC.

### 4 Action

#### A State Office and STC Action

State Offices and STC's will:

- follow the provisions of this notice
- ensure that County Offices follow the provisions of this notice
- provide authority to COC's to approve cost share for portable pumps
- contact Shanita Landon, ECP Program Manager, with any questions about this notice.

#### B County Office Action

County Offices will:

- follow the provisions of this notice
- contact their ECP State Office specialist with any questions about this notice.