

For: Tobacco State and County Offices

**Releasing Tobacco Transition Payment Program (TTPP) In-Dispute Contracts**

Approved by: Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



**1 Overview**

**A Background**

In the past, if 1 contract on a farm was placed in “In-Dispute” status, TTPP software would lock out all contracts associated with this farm from further action. Software has not been available to complete required maintenance on these contracts or to release contracts with undisputed payments.

**B Purpose**

This notice:

- provides policies and procedures for releasing “In-Dispute” contracts on a case-by-case basis
- addresses prompt payment interest determination for contracts being released from “In-Dispute” status.

**2 Action**

**A County Office Action**

County Offices shall:

- update and release for payment contracts currently in “In-Dispute” status where the land ownership or base quota line (BQL) for the farm is not in dispute
- make prompt payment interest determinations on all eligible contracts released from “In-Dispute” status.

**Note:** During a limited time on Monday, October 31, 2005, eTTPP allowed users to release contracts from “In-Dispute” status. During this time, 38 contracts were released prematurely. These contracts have been returned to “In-Dispute” status.

| Disposal Date    | Distribution  |
|------------------|---|
| February 1, 2006 | Tobacco State Offices; State Offices relay to applicable County Offices |

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### 2 Action (Continued)

#### B CED Action

CED's shall:

- review all contracts on a farm where at least 1 contract is in "In-Dispute" status to determine which contracts on the farm, if any, are eligible to be released for payment
- initial and date CCC-955 or CCC-956, as applicable, in item 8C when contract is eligible for payment.

**Note:** Only contracts on a farm where the dispute does not involve the farm's BQL are eligible to be released for payment before settling the disputed contract.

#### C State Office Action

State Offices shall ensure that County Offices follow the provisions in this notice.

### 3 Releasing "In-Dispute" Contracts

#### A "In-Dispute" Contracts Eligible for Release

Contracts that were previously held "In-Dispute" may be updated to "Approved" status and released for payment on a contract-by-contract basis.

#### B "In-Dispute" Contracts Not Eligible for Release

If BQL on a contract is "In-Dispute", all contracts associated with this farm shall remain "In-Dispute" until the dispute has been settled, all parties have agreed, or all administrative appeal rights have been exhausted.

Contracts where individual shares (BQL) or land ownerships, including producer shares or tract ownership, that are still disputed should remain "In-Dispute" status until the dispute has been settled, all parties have agreed, or all administrative appeal rights have been exhausted.

### 4 Prompt Pay Interest Determination for Contract

#### A Determination

If a contract was inadvertently placed in "In-Dispute" status before the FY 2005 payment disbursement, all contracts associated with this farm **are eligible** for prompt pay interest if released for payment after September 30, 2005.

County Offices will need to make prompt payment interest determinations on a case-by-case basis.

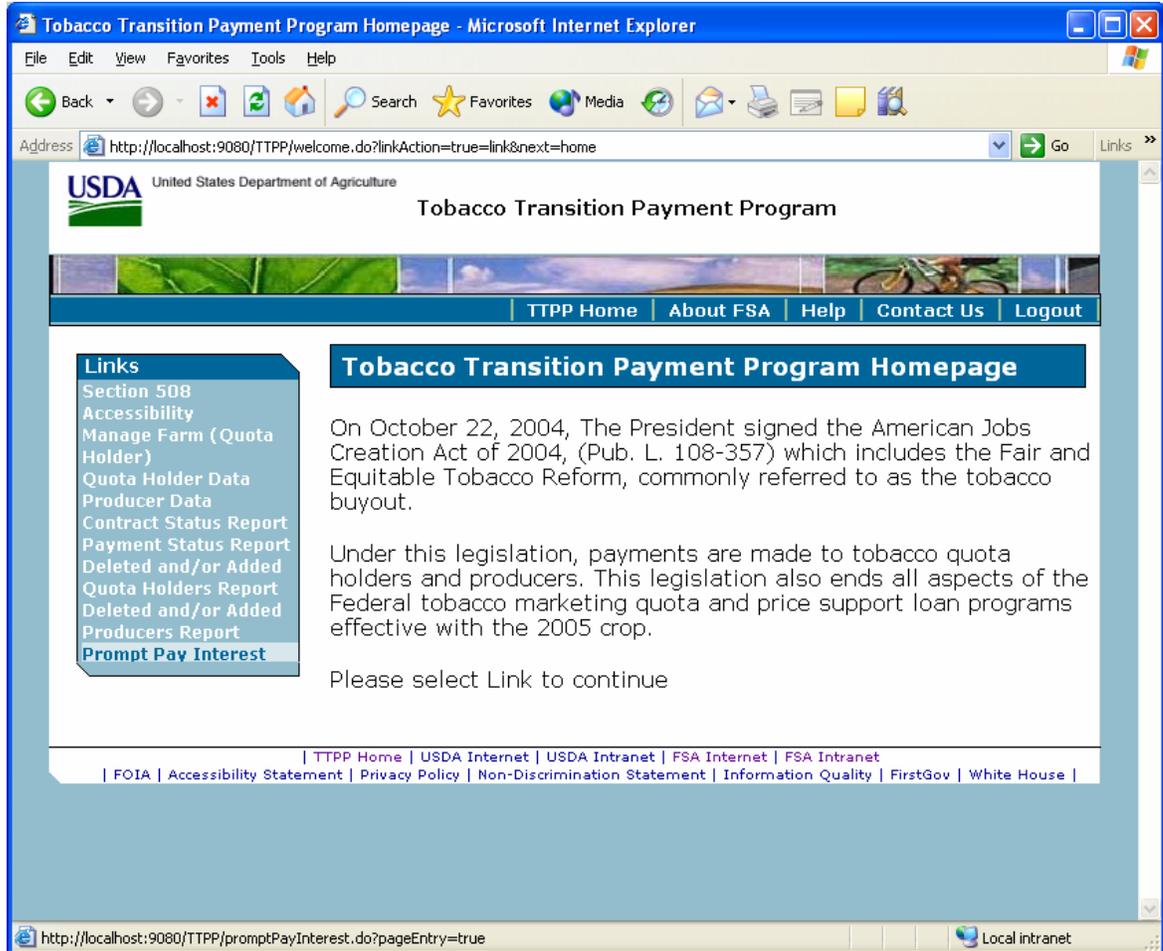
If a contract was placed in "In-Dispute" status because of a dispute over BQL or ownership rights, contracts associated with this farm **are not** be eligible for prompt pay interest.

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### 5 System Functionality – Releasing In-Dispute Contracts

#### A Updating Contract Status

The following is an example of the eTTPP Home Page.



To update the contract status, click “Quota Holder Data” or “Producer Data”.

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### 5 System Functionality – Releasing In-Dispute Contracts (Continued)

#### A Updating Contract Status (Continued)

The following is an example of the Quota Holder Inquiry/Maintenance Screen.

Quota Holder Inquiry/Maintenance - Microsoft Internet Explorer

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Back Forward Stop Refresh Home Search Favorites Media Print Mail News RSS

Address http://localhost:9080/TTPP/inquiry.do?linkAction=true&type=1 Go Links

USDA United States Department of Agriculture

Tobacco Transition Payment Program

TTPP Home About FSA Help Contact Us Logout

Links

- Section 508 Accessibility
- Manage Farm (Quota Holder)
- Quota Holder Data
- Producer Data
- Contract Status Report
- Payment Status Report
- Deleted and/or Added
- Quota Holders Report
- Deleted and/or Added
- Producers Report
- Prompt Pay Interest

Quota Holder Inquiry/Maintenance

Search by tax id and type Tax id type: Social Security

Search by farm serial number

Search by contract number

Search criteria:

5450

Submit

SCIMS Name Search

Submit

TTPP Home | USDA Internet | USDA Intranet | Click here when search options have been completed.

FOIA | Accessibility Statement | Privacy Policy | Non-Discrimination Statement | Information Quality | FIRSTGov | White House

Local intranet

Enter search criteria for the disputed farm and click “Submit”.

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### 5 System Functionality – Releasing In-Dispute Contracts (Continued)

#### A Updating Contract Status (Continued)

The following is an example of the Quota Holder Inquiry/Maintenance Summary Screen which indicates there are 3 contracts associated with this farm with only 1 contract marked as “In-Dispute”.

The Quota Holder Inquiry/Maintenance Summary Screen will list all contracts associated with the requested farm. Select the contract to be updated by clicking on the contract number.

Quota Holder Inquiry/Maintenance - Summary

Farm No.: 0005450  
Mecklenburg County, VA  
Description: None

| Details              | Name      | Tax id    | Tax id type | Tobacco type | Contract No. | Contract status |
|----------------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|
| <a href="#">View</a> | V MOSS    | xxxxxxx   | S           | Flue-Cured   | 511172000540 | In dispute      |
| <a href="#">View</a> | GRAY MOSS | xxxxxxxxx | S           | Flue-Cured   | 511172000539 | Completed       |
| <a href="#">View</a> | V MOSS    | xxxxxxxxx | S           | Flue-Cured   | 511172000023 | Approved        |

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### 5 System Functionality – Releasing In-Dispute Contracts (Continued)

#### A Updating Contract Status (Continued)

The following is an example of the Update Contract Screen.

**Note:** All contract statuses are now available for update.

| Update Contract               |                          |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Form Number                   | CCC-955                  |
| Contract Number               | 511172000540             |
| Contract Status               | In dispute               |
| CCC-960 Status                | Completed                |
| Annual Installments           |                          |
| Apply prompt payment interest | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| State FSA Code                | 51                       |
| County FSA Code               | 117                      |
| Farm Number                   | 0005450                  |
| FSA Crop Code                 | Flue-Cured               |
| Contract Price Per Pound      | \$7.00                   |
| Total Contract BQL            | 0                        |
| Total Contract Value          | \$0.00                   |

5 System Functionality – Releasing In-Dispute Contracts (Continued)

A Updating Contract Status (Continued)

On the Update Contract Screen, the following may be updated:

- “Contract Status”
- “CCC-960 Status”
- “Annual Installments”
- “Apply Prompt Payment Interest”.

The “Apply Prompt Payment Interest” flag defaults to a “Blank” status. The user must decide if prompt payment interest is applicable.

| Update Contract               |                |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Form Number                   | CCC-955        |
| Contract Number               | 511172000540   |
| Contract Status               | Approved       |
| CCC-960 Status                | Not applicable |
| Annual Installments           | 10             |
| Apply prompt payment interest | No             |
| State FSA Code                | 51             |
| County FSA Code               | 117            |
| Farm Number                   | 0005450        |
| FSA Crop Code                 | Flue-Cured     |
| Contract Price Per Pound      | \$7.00         |
| Total Contract BQL            | 0              |
| Total Contract Value          | \$0.00         |

Select the appropriate statuses and click “submit” at the bottom of the screen.

**Example:** Contract “000540” would be released to the National Payment Service if the submit button was selected.