

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Conservation Service

[Docket No. NRCS-2016-0010]

Notice of Proposed Changes to Section I of the Wisconsin Field Office Technical Guide

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

ACTION: Notice of availability of proposed changes in the NRCS Wisconsin Field Office Technical Guides for review and comment.

SUMMARY: NRCS is proposing to revise Section I of the Wisconsin Field Office Technical Guide to include “Wisconsin Wetland Determination Methods” which will replace the existing “Wisconsin Wetland Mapping Conventions issued May 1, 1998” (commonly referred as State Wetland Mapping Conventions). The Wisconsin Wetland Determination Methods will be used as part of the technical documents and procedures to conduct wetland determinations on agriculture land as part of the Food Security Act of 1985 (as amended).

DATES: *Effective Date:* Effective October 18, 2016. Guidance for Wisconsin Wetland Determination Methods is in final draft status.

Comment Date: Submit comments on or before November 17, 2016. The final version of the Wisconsin Wetland Determination Methods will be adopted after the close of the 30-day period and after consideration of all comments.

ADDRESSES: Comments should be submitted, identified by Docket Number NRCS-2016-0010, using any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- *Mail or hand-delivery:* Submit state specific comments to the Wisconsin

NRCS State Office, located at 8030 Excelsior Drive, Suite 200, Madison, WI 53737-2906.

• NRCS will post all comments on <http://www.regulations.gov>. In general, personal information provided with comments will be posted. If your comment includes your address, phone number, email, or other personal identifying information, your comments, including personal information, may be available to the public. You may ask in your comment that your personal identifying information be withheld from public view, but this cannot be guaranteed.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jimmy Bramblett, Wisconsin State Conservationist. Phone: 608-662-4422, by email at jimmy.bramblett@wi.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Guidance for Wisconsin Wetland Determination Methods will be used as part of the technical documents and procedures to conduct wetland determinations on agricultural land as required by 16 U.S.C. 3822. NRCS is required by 16 U.S.C. 3862 to make available for public review and comment all proposed revisions to standards and procedures used to carry out highly erodible land and wetland provisions of the law.

All comments will be considered. If no comments are received, Guidance for Wisconsin Wetland Determination Methods will be considered final.

Electronic copies of the proposed Guidance for Wisconsin Wetland Determination Methods are available through <http://www.regulations.gov> by accessing Docket No. NRCS-2016-0010. Alternatively, copies can be downloaded or printed from the Wisconsin NRCS Web site located at: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/site/wi/home/>. Requests for paper versions or inquiries may be directed to the Wisconsin State Conservationist at the contact point shown above.

Signed this 5th day of October, 2016, in Madison, WI.

Jimmy Bramblett,
State Conservationist.

[FR Doc. 2016-25047 Filed 10-17-16; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-16-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Business-Cooperative Service

Notice of Solicitation of Applications for the Rural Energy for America Program for Federal Fiscal Year 2017

AGENCY: Rural Business-Cooperative Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Rural Business-Cooperative Service (the Agency) announces the acceptance of applications under the Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) which is designed to help agricultural producers and rural small businesses reduce energy costs and consumption and help meet the Nation’s critical energy needs. REAP have two types of funding assistance: (1) Renewable Energy Systems and Energy Efficiency Improvements Assistance, and (2) Energy Audit and Renewable Energy Development Assistance Grants.

The Renewable Energy Systems and Energy Efficiency Improvement Assistance provides grants and guaranteed loans to agricultural producers and rural small businesses to purchase and install renewable energy systems and make energy efficiency improvements to their operations. Eligible renewable energy systems for REAP provide energy from: Wind, solar, renewable biomass (including anaerobic digesters), small hydro-electric, ocean, geothermal, or hydrogen derived from these renewable resources.

The Energy Audit and Renewable Energy Development Assistance Grant is available to a unit of State, Tribal, or local government; instrumentality of a State, Tribal, or local government; institution of higher education; rural electric cooperative; a public power entity; or a council, as defined in 16 U.S.C. 3451. The recipient of grant funds, grantee, will establish a program to assist agricultural producers and rural small businesses with evaluating the energy efficiency and the potential to incorporate renewable energy technologies into their operations.

DATES: See under **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The applicable USDA Rural Development Energy Coordinator for your respective State, as identified via the following