

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service  
P.O. Box 2890  
Washington, D.C. 20013

OCT 10 2007

Dr. Robert T. Burns  
Associate Professor  
Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering  
Iowa State University  
3224 NSRIC  
Ames, Iowa 50011

Dear Dr. Burns:

We are pleased to inform you that our cooperative partnership regarding training and certification of Technical Service Providers (TSPs) in the Comprehensive Nutrient Management (CNMP) area over the past three years has proven very productive. Rather than continuing the memorandum of understanding process to sustain our partnership, we are solidifying our desire to continue our work via this letter.

Our national TSP Certification Process recognizes Iowa State University Extension (ISU) as a Recommending Organization for CNMP Development for Manure and Wastewater Storage and Handling, Nutrient Management, Land Treatment Practices, Feed Management and Total Plan Development. If something changes in your ability to continue to offer this training and certification, please advise us. Otherwise, this letter serves to document our cooperative partnership that offers mutual benefit to both our organizations.

We will continue to interact with you as the ISU Technical contact for all matters related to training and certification. Likewise, contact my staff or me regarding TSP certification matters. I look forward to our continued mutual cooperation in this matter. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to call me at (202) 720-6731.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Angel Figueroa".

ANGEL FIGUEROA  
National TSP Team Leader

cc: Lawrence E. Clark, Deputy Chief for Science and Technology, NRCS, Washington, D.C.  
Ronald L. Marlow, Associate Deputy Chief for Science and Technology, NRCS HQ  
Darren Hickman, National Environmental Engineer, Conservation Engineering Division,  
NRCS, Washington, D.C.  
Norman Widman, National Agronomist, Ecological Sciences Division, NRCS HQ  
Washington, D.C.  
Renna Young Owens, Natural Resources Specialist, National TSP Team, NRCS HQ

*Helping People Help the Land*

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY  
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Department of Agricultural and  
Biosystems Engineering  
3212 NSRIC  
Ames, Iowa 50011-3310

October 4, 2007

Angel Figueroa  
National TSP Team Leader  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Room 6021-South Building  
Washington DC 200250

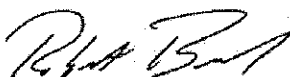
Dear Mr. Figueroa,

In October 2004 Iowa State University entered into a cooperative partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture by signing a memorandum of understanding (MOU) in regards to the training and certification of Technical Service Providers in the Comprehensive Nutrient Management (CNMP) area. This MOU was initiated for a three year period and documents that Iowa State University maintains a nationally recognized certification program. Specifically, the agreement allows Iowa State University to recommend individuals to USDA for certification in the CNMP Development areas of Manure and Wastewater Storage and Handling, Nutrient Management, Land Treatment Practices, Feed Management and Total Plan Development. At this time, we would like to request a continuation of the MOU through a two year extension.

Under this MOU, Iowa State University has trained 622 people in our national CNMP Development course and certified 92 individuals in the multiple CNMP Development certification areas. Currently 51% of all USDA Technical Service Providers nationally certified and listed on the TSP webpage in one of the five USDA certification categories associated with CNMP preparation was trained and certified by the ISU CNMP Certification program.

This partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture has been a great benefit to our program. We look forward to working with USDA-NRCS to continue providing timely training and certification opportunities to Technical Service Providers in the CNMP area.

Best Regards,



Robert Burns, Ph.D., P.E.

cc: Darren Hickman