

Natural Resources Conservation Service Energy Investment Categories

June 2, 2009

Who We Are, What We Do

- Mission – Helping People Help The Land
- Strategies – Cooperative Conservation, Watershed Approach, Market Based Approach
- Business Lines – Conservation Planning and Implementation, Natural Resources Inventory and Assessment, Natural Resources Technology Transfer, Financial Assistance

Types of Assistance

- Financial Assistance (FA) – Direct Funding to Program Recipients (cost share, incentives, grants, easements, stewardship payments)
- Technical Assistance (TA) – Technology Transfer, Data Development, Staffing, Infrastructure, etc.

Natural Resources Conservation Service Energy Investment Categories

Education and Outreach

- **Conservation Innovation Grants Program (FA)**
- **Conservation Technical Assistance Program (TA)**

Energy Efficiency and Conservation

- **Conservation Security Program (FA and TA)**
- **Environmental Quality Incentives Program (FA and TA)**
- **Conservation Technical Assistance Program (TA)**

Education and Outreach – Conservation Innovation Grants (FA)

- Competitive Grant Program Available to Non-Federal Governmental, NGO's, Tribes or Individual Entities
- Enables NRCS to Work With Public and Private Entities to Accelerate Technology Transfer to Ag Community

Education and Outreach Cont'd, Conservation Innovation Grants, 2008 Examples

- Coaltec Energy USA inc. – Gasification of Poultry Litter to Produce Heat and Chilling (\$475,500)
- Washington State University – Nutrient Capture and Redistribution in a Community Anaerobic Digester (\$414,013)
- Pine Ridge Winery – Modular Bio-power for Conversion of Biomass Residues to Onsite Heat and Power (\$560,134)

Education and Outreach Cont'd, Conservation Technical Assistance (TA)

- Staffing for Two Full Time Energy Specialists at West National Technology Support Center in Portland OR
- Team Responsibilities Composed of Planning, Program Support, Training, Technology Development, and Communications Related to Energy Issues
- One Key Output of Team Has Been Suite of On-Line Energy Estimators

Education and Outreach Cont'd, On-Line Self Assessment Tools



USDA United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

Energy Estimator

Energy Consumption Awareness Tool: Animal Housing

This banner features a close-up photograph of several white chickens in a farm setting. The USDA logo and text are in the top left corner. The title 'Energy Estimator' is prominently displayed in the center, with 'Energy' in white and 'Estimator' in yellow. Below the title, the subtitle 'Energy Consumption Awareness Tool: Animal Housing' is written in white.



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Energy Estimator

Energy Consumption Awareness Tool: Irrigation

This banner shows a large center pivot irrigation system in a vast, flat agricultural field under a clear blue sky. The USDA logo and text are in the top left corner. The title 'Energy Estimator' is prominently displayed in the center, with 'Energy' in white and 'Estimator' in yellow. Below the title, the subtitle 'Energy Consumption Awareness Tool: Irrigation' is written in white.



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Energy Estimator

Energy Consumption Awareness Tool: Nitrogen

This banner depicts a white ammonia storage tank on a tractor in a field. The tank has 'CAUTION AMMONIA' and 'F' hazard labels. The USDA logo and text are in the top left corner. The title 'Energy Estimator' is prominently displayed in the center, with 'Energy' in white and 'Estimator' in yellow. Below the title, the subtitle 'Energy Consumption Awareness Tool: Nitrogen' is written in white.



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Energy Estimator

Energy Consumption Awareness Tool: Tillage

This banner shows a green tractor with a tillage implement working in a field. The USDA logo and text are in the top left corner. The title 'Energy Estimator' is prominently displayed in the center, with 'Energy' in white and 'Estimator' in yellow. Below the title, the subtitle 'Energy Consumption Awareness Tool: Tillage' is written in white.

Energy Efficiency and Conservation, Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) (FA and TA)

- **Voluntary Conservation Program for Farmers and Ranchers, Provides Financial and Technical Assistance for Conservation Practice Adoption to Address Resource Concerns**
- **Obligated Funds for Installation of Seven Anaerobic Digesters to Address Air and Water Quality Concerns**
- **2008 Farm Bill Authorizes EQIP to Prioritize Energy Conservation**

Energy Efficiency and Conservation Cont'd, Conservation Security Program (CSP) (FA and TA)

- **Voluntary Conservation Program Providing Financial and Technical Assistance for Conservation Activities, Implemented in Selected Watersheds**
- **Provided Funding for Several Energy Related Activities, Such As Energy Audits, Renewable Energy Generation, and Recycle On Farm Lubricants**
- **CSP Replaced by Conservation Stewardship Program in 2008 Farm Bill – Energy Will be used in Ranking For Nation Wide Sign Up**