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*Helping People
Help the Land*

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Transmitted via Email

April 18, 2007

MINNESOTA BULLETIN NO. 300-7-16

SUBJECT: LTP – TSP – 2007 CONTRIBUTION AGREEMENT TEMPLATE FOR USE WITH
PARTNER SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS (SWCDs)

Purpose. To distribute the 2007 Contribution Agreement Template.

Expiration Date. September 30, 2007.

Attached is the 2007 version of the Contribution Agreement Template that will be used with Districts. Changes from last year include the following items;

- The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) has been removed as an allowable program for which SWCDs can earn reimbursement.
- Agreements will be effective for twelve months from the date of the last signature on the agreement (District or STC). Federal appropriations law will no longer allow extensions of a Contribution Agreement beyond 12 months. Only those work activities which will be fully completed within 12 months should be entered into the 2007 Contribution Agreement. Any work activities not completed within 12 months will not be eligible to receive funding under the agreement and partially completed work may not be eligible for reimbursement.

Reimbursement rates for Conservation Planning and Plan and Contract Development remain the same as for 2006.

Districts must report all completed deliverable work products (when appropriate) into the Performance Results System (PRS) reporting system located on the following web site:
<http://ias.sc.egov.usda.gov/PRSHOME/>

Specific work duties for each practice component (Design, Installation and Check-out) are described in the practice “Statement of Work” which can be viewed in Section IV of the Minnesota e-FOTG.

Districts will be reimbursed at the rates listed in the version of the TSP Technical Service Payment calculator in place at the time the agreement is developed. These rates include the cost of travel. The rate calculator is found at the following web site:

<http://techreg.sc.egov.usda.gov/NTE/TSPNTE2/index.asp> Consult Bulletin 300-7-14 for additional information on TSP Payment Rates

If Districts will be providing TSP services for the 590, Nutrient Management practice through a Contribution Agreement, the Environmental Quality Improvement Program (EQIP) applicant receiving that service must be approved only for nutrient management without manure at the \$2.25 per acre rate or for nutrient management with manure at the \$4.00 per acre payment rate.

Questions on the information in this bulletin can be directed to Jeff St. Ores, Water Quality Specialist or Steve Muyskens, Administrative Services Manager. The original 2007 Contribution Agreements signed by the District will be routed through the ASTC(FO) for fund sufficiency, to Steve Muyskens for review and final signature by the State Conservationist.

/s/

WILLIAM HUNT
State Conservationist

Attachment

DIST: AC
Tim Koehler, ASTC, St. Paul, MN
Paul Flynn, SRC, St. Paul, MN
Jeff St. Ores, St. Paul, MN
Charles Montgomery, SAO, St. Paul, MN
Steve Muyskens, St. Paul, MN