

§MN505.03 Review of work performed by consultants and suppliers.

(a) Standard designs and drawings prepared by others. NRCS is often requested to approve standard drawings for measures such as manure tanks or pre-fabricated structures. State conservation engineers are to use all appropriate means to handle this request efficiently.

(1) The state conservation engineer may perform the review and, if appropriate, provide approval using available NRCS resources.

(2) The state conservation engineer may request the firm to supply a peer review conducted by an independent engineering firm.

(3) The state conservation engineer will require the firm to supply NRCS with a certification that the measure meets all NRCS standards for the States where the measure is to be applied.

(4) Designs to be reviewed by NRCS shall be accompanied by all necessary substantiating data and calculations.

(5) The state conservation engineer will notify the Director of Conservation Engineering Division of all approved standard designs and drawings prepared by others.

(b) Site specific plans and specifications. Designs, drawings and specifications completed by NRCS, sponsors, or landowners by consultants and others can expedite implementation of NRCS administered programs.

(1) NRCS will provide the non-NRCS individual with the applicable NRCS standards and provide appropriate pre-design support at the request of the landowner or sponsor.

(2) The individual will certify on the drawings that “to the best of my professional knowledge, judgment and belief, these plans meet applicable NRCS standards.”

(3) An NRCS employee with the necessary job approval authority shall perform a functional review to ensure, as a minimum, that the work:

(i) achieves the objectives of the plan,

(ii) meets the criteria in the applicable practice standards,

(iii) complies with the applicable State and Federal programs,

(iv) includes an Inspection Plan and Operation and Maintenance Plan, and

(v) does not require a technical review as defined in National Engineering Manual Section 511.05.

(c) Site specific installations. Landowners and sponsors are encouraged to use the designers to provide construction inspection.

(1) The landowner or sponsor will submit final as-built drawings with a certification by the responsible individual that “to the best of my professional knowledge, judgment, and belief this practice is installed in accordance with the plans and specifications and meets NRCS standards.”

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- (2) NRCS may make a field visit to review the application.
- (3) NRCS will make any necessary program certification for cost sharing.