

Subpart A - INTRODUCTION

MN505.03(b)(5)

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

(b) Site specific plans and specifications. Designs, drawings, and specifications completed for NRCS, sponsors, or landowners by consultants and others can expedite implementation of NRCS administered programs. For site specific plans prepared by consultants, who must be approved by NRCS, the following conditions must be met:

(1) All plans prepared by a Professional Engineer (PE), which are submitted to the NRCS for approval, should be reviewed by an engineer licensed in Minnesota.

(2) An itemized estimate and inspection plan prepared by the engineer must be submitted with the plan.

(3) As a minimum, inspection plans must include a description of critical inspection items, the frequency and timing of inspections, frequency and types of tests required, and qualifications of the inspectors. Inspections specified must be adequate to ensure that critical construction specifications are met and materials utilized are adequate.

(4) Review of work performed by Technical Service Providers for individual landowners will be limited to post reviews described in NEM MN 501.05(2).

(5) The following checklist may be used as a guide for review of pollution abatement engineering plans prepared in accordance with NEM 505.03(b):

NRCS POLLUTION ABATEMENT SYSTEM REVIEW CHECKLIST

1. Has a manure management plan been prepared either by NRCS or Consultant? (NEM 537)
2. Is the manure storage volume adequate to meet manure management plan requirements? (NRCS Standard 313)
3. Is all contaminated runoff and silage leachate stored or adequately treated? (NRCS Standard 784)
4. Is a plan view included, which shows all drainage directions near the feedlot? (NRCS Standard. 784)
5. Are all roofs and drainage areas to open lots diverted away or included in storage volume computations? (NRCS Standard 313, 784)
6. For dairy operations, is the milk parlor wash water stored or properly treated? (NRCS Standard 784)
7. Are all wells shown? Do they meet MN Department of Health setback requirements? (Standard 313, MN Rules Chapter 4725.4450)
8. Are any lots to be abandoned clearly identified along with time frame and requirements? (NRCS Standard 312)
9. Were a minimum of 2 soil borings taken (of adequate depth) for storage facilities, and are any special geologic conditions accounted for in design? (NRCS Standard 784)
10. Are storage pond liners adequate? (NRCS Standard 313)
11. Is water table control adequate (type, depth, filter, outlet, etc) if needed? (NRCS Standard 313)
12. For concrete tanks, is the floor slab reinforced? (NRCS Standard 313)
13. For concrete structures near feedlots, are requirements for equipotential plane met? (National Electrical Code, NEM 537)
14. Are safety signs, fences, grates, etc., specified where needed? (NRCS Standard 313)
15. Is access adequate for agitation and or emptying of storage facilities? (Should be pointed out as a consideration) (NRCS Standard 313)
16. Is vegetation specified for disturbed areas? (NRCS Standard 313)
17. Does the inspection plan specify the timing of inspections, qualifications of the inspector, surveys required, testing required, and documentation needed? (NRCS NEM 505)
18. Does the O&M plan address operational and safety aspects (including confined spaces warning if appropriate) of the planned structures? (NRCS Standard 313, 784)

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NRCS POLLUTION ABATEMENT SYSTEM REVIEW CHECKLIST (cont)

19. Do any parts of the plan present a potential operation or maintenance problem? These should be pointed out to the cooperator, but a resolution is not required for NRCS acceptance of the plan. (NRCS NEM 505)
20. Is an itemized cost estimate prepared by the engineer included? (NRCS NEM 505)
21. Is the NRCS Standards certification statement on the plan and signed? (NRCS NEM 505)
22. Is the proper PE certification present? (MN statute 326.12)

Subpart B - Use of Non-NRCS Engineering Services

MN505.10 Non-project activities.

(c) Assistance to Individual Land Users.

(1) The NRCS will normally furnish engineering assistance to individual landowners or operators in the planning, design, and supervision of construction of those commonly used soil conservation and water management practices which are part of a resource management system, and soil and water conservation measures which are installed with cost share programs.

(2) Normally, NRCS will not provide services for design and supervision of construction of engineering measures in the following categories:

(i) All jobs where the total time required for planning, design and supervision of construction exceeds 60 staff days.

(ii) All ponds, lakes and drainage facilities for real estate development (includes mobile home developments).

(iii) Engineering practices in urban areas, except where practices are minor in scope. Refer to GM, Title 450, Part 408 for policy on providing technical assistance in urban areas.

(iv) Engineering practices or systems with job approval class greater than Class VI.

Exceptions to the above limitations in providing technical service must be justified in writing, recommended by the ASTC(FO), and approved by the State Conservationist.

(3) When private engineers or others perform engineering work involving soil conservation and water management practices, NRCS may provide technical services on inventories and evaluations, design criteria and procedures, specifications and construction techniques so that the work will carry out the intended conservation objectives.

(4) NRCS encourages conservation district cooperators and others whom it assists to follow applicable Technical Guide Standards when conservation work is done for them by private engineers. If NRCS has technical responsibility, the work must comply with standards acceptable to NRCS.

(d) Assistance to Groups of Land Users.

(1) The NRCS will normally furnish engineering assistance to groups in the planning, design, and supervision of construction of such measures as drainage facilities, ponds for agricultural water supply, small floodwater and erosion control structures and other group practices that are within the approval authority of the engineer(s) assigned to the area staff.

(2) Normally, group project sponsors will obtain the services of private engineers for investigations, design and supervision of construction of engineering measures in the categories outlined in MN505.10(c)(2).

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(3) NRCS will usually make the preliminary investigations and studies for large group projects, and will provide design criteria and maintain contact with the work, as needed to insure that it is fully integrated with the conservation objectives of the job and acceptable by NRCS standards. In addition, where Federal financial assistance is involved, the NRCS will check the finished work for conformance to NRCS standards before certification as acceptable for receipt of Federal funds.

(e) Assistance to Units of Government

(1) The NRCS will normally provide technical services to units of government concerned with land use and treatment to encourage the application of soil and water conservation principles and techniques in land use planning and conservation treatment. These services generally consist of furnishing inventory and evaluation reports to states, counties, cities, planning commissions, and other public entities, to their engineering organizations and to private engineers working for them.

(2) NRCS provides information and general technical assistance to units of government concerned with soil and water conservation in urban areas but normally does not perform detailed surveys, planning, design or supervision of installation of work. Details of planning and implementation are carried out by private engineers or technical staffs employed by those receiving the assistance.