

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service
210 Walnut Street, Room 693
Des Moines, IA 50309-2180

March 17, 2008

NATIONAL ENGINEERING MANUAL
210-V-AMENDMENT IA33 – PART 505

SUBJECT: CERTIFICATION OF ENGINEERING PRACTICES

Purpose: This notice transmits page IA505-4(1)

Effective Date: This amendment is effective upon receipt.

Explanation of changes: This Amendment provides the policy for accepting certifications of practice design and installation from non-NRCS engineers.

Filing Instructions:

Insert Page IA505-4(1) after page 505-4.

This amendment should be noted on the Iowa Supplement Tabulation Sheet.

/s/Al Garner
Acting State Conservationist

Attachment

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RC&D
Central States SCE's
Noller Herbert, Director, Conservation Engineering Division

505.03(b) Site specific plans and specifications.

Designs, construction drawings, and specifications may be prepared by non-NRCS engineers. The non-NRCS engineer could be a certified Technical Service Provider (TSP) or any other Professional Engineer (PE) licensed in the state of Iowa for the appropriate discipline.

Some practices include component structures such as hoop buildings or mono-slope buildings as part of an animal waste management system. In these cases, it is common to have two designers working on the project. One designs the structure while the other designs the rest of the system including the site plan, other appurtenances or components, foundations, supports, etc.

In this case, the engineer who designs only a component of the system must certify the following:

"To the best of my professional knowledge, judgment, and belief, this design, construction drawings, and specifications meet applicable NRCS standards and specifications."

This certification must be accompanied by his/her Iowa license stamp or seal. With this statement, the engineer is automatically certifying that his/her work meets the applicable criteria from other standards which are referenced in the NRCS standards.

It is important to recognize that certification of the structure design itself is not a sealed set of plans for the entire site. The overall site design must be certified and stamped/sealed also. The engineer who does the overall site design and drawings must use the same certification statement as shown above.

If one engineer does the entire design and drawings, including all structures and components, then that engineer must certify the design and drawings using the above statement accompanied by his/her Iowa license stamp or seal.

505.03(c) Site specific installations.

After construction is completed, the licensed engineer must certify the following:

"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."

This certification must be stamped/sealed and must be accompanied with the final "as-built" drawings and other deliverables as shown in the practice Statement(s) of Work.

As with the design, it is also possible to have two certifications for construction. For example, one engineer may certify a component of the system, such as a structure, while the other engineer may certify the rest of the project. In this case, each engineer would be required to use the above statement with their stamp/seal and provide the appropriate deliverables for their portion of the work.