

**DOCUMENTING PLANNING, DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND CHECKOUT OF  
ENGINEERING CONSERVATION PRACTICES GUIDE**

**Anionic Polyacrylamide (PAM) Erosion Control, Code 450**

**I. References**

A. Design Criteria

1. Alabama FOTG Section IV, conservation practice standard, Anionic Polyacrylamide (PAM) Erosion Control, Code 450.

B. Design/Layout Surveys

1. TR-62 Engineering Layout, Notes, Staking & Calculations.
2. NEFH Part 650, Chapter 1, Engineering Surveys.

**II. Documentation**

A. Preliminary Investigation

Make a preliminary investigation, including obtaining soil samples, to determine if soils at the site are suitable for treatment with PAM and to determine the required application rate.

B. Engineering Surveys – None Required.

C. Design

1. Design in accordance with the design criteria in the conservation practice standard Anionic Polyacrylamide (PAM) Erosion Control, Code 450. Record design data on NRCS-ENG-523A (or equivalent).
2. Develop engineering plans and specifications. As a minimum the plans and specifications shall include for each field:
  - a. Location of area to be treated.
  - b. Sodium adsorption ratios of irrigation water.
  - c. Characteristics of PAM to be used.
  - d. PAM application rate.
3. Develop a site specific O&M Plan for the practice.

D. Construction Layout

None Required. Area to be treated may be shown on conservation plan map.

E. Construction

Adequate site visits and checks shall be made during construction to verify that the plans and specifications are followed.

Any changes in the design must be reviewed and concurred by the landowner and shall be approved by the designer and person with appropriate engineering design job approval authority.

F. Construction Checkout

1. Check the area treated to determine if the treatment is effective in reducing erosion.
2. Record the type, quality, quantity of PAM applied.

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3. Prepare as-built drawings showing final construction dimensions, details, etc.
4. If the practice meets NRCS standards and specifications, then the statement "This practice meets NRCS practice standards and specifications" shall be placed on the checkout document and signed and dated by the responsible person with appropriate level of engineering job approval authority.

### G. Reporting and/or Certifying

After it has been determined and documented that the practice meets NRCS plans and specifications, it can be reported and certified. The extent of the practice to be reported is the area in acres. The extent of the practice to be certified is the quantities used as the basis of payment such as the pounds of PAM applied, etc.