

FARMSTEAD ENERGY IMPROVEMENT (374)

Conservation Practice Job Sheet

ID- 374, JS- XX

Natural Resources Conservation Service - Idaho

January 2012



Photo courtesy of NRCS

What is Farmstead Energy Improvement?

Farmstead energy improvement is the development and implementation of improvements to reduce, or improve the energy efficiency of on-farm energy use.

Purpose

The Farmstead Energy Improvement practice may be applied as part of a conservation management system to develop and implement improvements to reduce the energy use on the farm.

Practice Specifications

This practice is to be used exclusively for implementing the recommendations from on-farm energy audit.

The practice applies to any non-residential structure and energy using systems where reducing energy use is the identified goal, and must meet the following requirements:

- This practice requires the producer to have an Agricultural Energy Management Plan for the Headquarters (EMP-Headquarters) and/or Landscape (EMP-Landscape) utilizing either the Energy Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)-122 (Headquarters), CAP-124 (Landscape), or an on-farm energy audit (no more than five years old) that meets the [ASABE S612 standard](#). Otherwise, the

Energy Conservation Activity Plans (CAP)-122 or (CAP)-124:

The Energy CAP-122 (Headquarters) or 124 (Landscape) shall be developed by certified Technical Service Providers (TSPs). In accordance with Section 1240 (A), the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) program provides funding support through contracts with eligible producers to obtain services of certified TSPs for development of a Headquarters or Landscape AgEMPs.

application must be deferred until acceptable on-farm energy audits are provided.

- The Farmstead Energy Improvement practice requires documentation used in determining the reduction in energy use on the farmstead by energy using systems. These plans and specifications shall:
 - include written specification describing the site specific details for each energy reducing installation on the farmstead.
 - document the system energy usage and resulting potential energy savings from implementation.
 - certify that the installation of new, replacement or retrofit system components and devices meet or exceed current applicable federal, state, and local standards
 - include detailed drawings showing location of the farmstead energy reduction systems and installations including measures and appurtenance, such as piping, inlet and outlet connections, mounting, foundations, and other structural components where appropriate.

Operation & Maintenance:

The installation of new, replacement or retrofit system components and devices were designed to reduce energy use on-farm while maintaining or improving the air quality resource for GHG and ambient air pollution. The life of this installation can be assured and usually increased by developing and carrying out a good operation and maintenance program.

This practice will require you to perform periodic operation to maintain satisfactory performance. Here are some recommendations to help you develop a good operation and maintenance program.

General Recommendations:

- Measures of the on-farm system performance should be discussed and understood by the landowner.

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- Maintain and operate the new, replaced, or retrofit on-farm system and related components or devices according to the manufacturer's recommendations.
- Records are an important tool to track on-farm systems performance over time, and can document reduction in energy use and emission of NO_x greenhouse gases and particulate emissions.
- NRCS recommends that records and updates be retained for a minimum of five years from the beginning of operation of a new, replaced or retrofitted on-farm system.
- Records should include the following:
 - Monthly utility bills, fuel purchases, and yield of agricultural commodities,
 - Documentation of maintenance conducted on the new, replacement, or retrofitted on-farm system and related components or devices.

The Client acknowledges that:

- a. They have a copy of the EMP-Headquarters or EMP-Landscape and understand the content of these Energy Management Plans.
- b. They received a copy of this practice and its specification and understand the contents and requirements.
- c. They understand the reduction in energy use and energy resulting from new, replaced or retrofitted system, components, or devices is to be used for reduction of farmstead energy use, not for off-farm resale.
- d. They understand that NRCS makes no representation as to the existence or non-existence of utilities. Landowners, operators and contractors will be liable for any damages resulting from disruption of service caused by construction activities.
- e. Maintenance of the installed work is necessary for proper performance during the life of the practice. All federal cost shared practices must be maintained to these specifications for the expected life of the practice.
- f. The producer must maintain and keep fuel use, electricity use, monthly utility bills, operation and maintenance records.

Accepted by: /s/ _____

Date: _____

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