



United States Department of Agriculture  
Natural Resources Conservation Service

# CSP Job Sheet E-3.4

## ENERGY MANAGEMENT ENHANCEMENT

July 2005

### LOWER BIG BLUE AND LOWER LITTLE BLUE WATERSHEDS IN NEBRASKA

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

For 2005, the Conservation Security Program (CSP) offers a limited number of enhancement payments as incentives to reward or encourage on-farm energy conservation and management. These enhancements are available once the applicant qualifies for CSP by meeting the program's entry requirements for soil and water quality.

This information will help landowners and managers determine if they are eligible for the offered payment(s) for energy enhancement activities.

#### Renewable Energy Generation

Payment = \$2.50 / 100 KWH generated.

Cost-conscious and conservation-minded farmers and ranchers have become increasingly aware of the impact that energy has on their ability to sustain their operations. The rising cost of electricity alone can determine whether some farmers are able to stay in business, especially dairy farmers and operations that rely on pumping irrigation water. While gaining efficiency and practicing conservation can create significant savings, farmers and ranchers can add energy generation to their operations. For many farmers and ranchers, solar, wind, biogas (methane generation), and, in some instances, geothermal or hydropower energy, can be generated and used on the farm to conserve energy and increase energy independence. Currently, only 2 percent of the total energy consumption in the United States comes from clean, renewable resources, but the potential power output of renewable energy resources is great.

In order to encourage increased energy production from renewable sources, USDA, through the CSP, will provide payments to qualified agricultural producers for each 100 kilowatt hour equivalents of electricity they generate.

**Documentation Required:** Energy generation in KWH generated verified by a State Public Utilities Commission, local electric utility (when connected to the grid), or the Environmental Protection Agency's conservation verification protocol must be provided prior to payment approval.

#### Certification:

I certify that I have generated \_\_\_\_\_ kilowatt hour equivalents of electricity.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_