

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
PRACTICE DOCUMENTATION GUIDE COMBUSTION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT 372

372 - STEP 1. INITIAL EVALUATIONS**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this step is to determine the landowner's desire to implement combustion system improvement in a predetermined location for the intended purposes (See NRCS Conservation Practice Standard 372).

Only the replacement or retrofit of an existing combustion system is allowed under this practice standard for the energy efficiency purpose. Installation of new combustion systems where none existed prior are not allowed if energy efficiency is the sole purpose.

The landowner must be interviewed to determine the purpose and need implementing combustion system improvement. Considerations will include landowner goals and objectives, existing conditions, and effects of this practice on existing soil, water, air, plant, animal, energy and human resources. A discussion of the NRCS implementation of the combustion system improvement standard, specification, and job sheet shall take place. Roles of the landowner and the person assisting with the planning and installation should also be discussed. Additional pertinent questions should be asked on a site-specific basis.

372 - STEP 2. INVESTIGATIONS, SURVEYS, AND INVENTORIES**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this step is to identify the mandatory preliminary resource inventory and operations that are required before the combustion system improvement can be planned and installed. The required minimal efficiency improvement of 20% shall be calculated and certified to warrant the implementation of combustion system improvement. Investigation will include all data and information needed to make informed decisions in the planning and installation of combustion system improvement and any follow-up management needs.

Also include identifying all needed utility clearances, archeological clearances (See

NRCS Conservation Practice 372 job sheets, ENV-1 Environmental Assessment, and Resource Inventory Checklist).

372 - STEP 3. PRACTICE DESIGN**I. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this step is to develop a design for the application of combustion system improvement. This practice will be designed in accordance with all federal, state and local laws and ordinances and shall consist of an acceptable design and layout for the planned purpose and meet the intended life of the practice.

A design will be developed with the client that meets the intended goals and energy saving objectives. All appropriate job sheets, maps and reports must be developed with landowners input, review and concurrence (See Conservation Practice 372 standard, specifications, and job sheets).

II. SITING

The purpose of this step is to insure that the combustion system improvement is properly located and that all involved fully understand where it is to be put into place.

III. MATERIALS/EQUIPMENT

The purpose of this item is to insure an understanding of the materials/equipment used to implement combustion system improvement. Appropriate specifications, job sheets and expectations that include the type of equipment will be provided to the landowner and all those involved in the planning and utilization of combustion system improvement.

372 -STEP 4. PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this step is to document and describe each component of the planned combustion system improvement, which includes installation of all appurtenant parts

This will include the documentation of all components described in specifications and job sheet. Additional reference material should be included as needed and appropriate. The landowner/operator must be provided with a complete detailed design and plan in the form

of a Conservation Plan, Plan Map, and NRCS Job Sheet 372. These documents depict the design and location. Items not described in these listed documents, but essential for the location and implementation of the combustion system improvement, will be added to the specifications and drawings.

372 - STEP 5. MANAGEMENT, OPERATION, AND MAINTENANCE

PURPOSE

The purpose of this step is to assure that proper management, operation, and maintenance is completed on the combustion system improvement (See NRCS Practice Standard 372). This requires a familiarity with the design and correct installation of the combustion system improvement in a proper and safe fashion. Periodic operations and maintenance schedules should be implemented. These measures should be discussed with and understood by the landowner.

372 - STEP 6. COMPLIANCE OR SPOT CHECKING

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this step is to determine that all work has been completed in accordance with the standards required by the Natural Resources Conservation Service. All completed NRCS forms should be collected from the landowner and submitted to the appropriate persons (See NRCS Practice Standard, Specifications, and Job Sheets 372, NM-ENV-1 Environmental Assessment, and Resource Inventory Checklist).

II. DOCUMENTS

Copies of all completed job sheets, data sheets, certifications and work sheets should be submitted to the Natural Resources Conservation Service representative within 10 working days of installation of the combustion system improvement. This includes the Practice Requirements as outlined in Job Sheet 372 and any other job sheets that may be needed for this practice to meet the intended goals and objectives.

Submitted certification of inoperability of one or more higher emitting or lower-efficiency combustion system(s) can be accomplished by:

Obtaining a receipt for the combustion system disposal from a scrap metal recycling

operation and keeping this receipt available for inspection; or

Creating a permanent hole in the engine block or combustion chamber of the combustion system (minimum size to be determined by Federal, State, or local guidelines). The disabled engine must be kept on-farm for inspection, or a written and signed certification that a permanent hole has been created and the engine is disabled must be prepared and kept available on-farm for inspection