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**FIELD OFFICE TECHNICAL GUIDE (FOTG)
450-VI
AMENDMENT WA 22**

Date: February, 2008

Purpose: To transmit the pipe weight calculator Excel spreadsheet and guidance material Engineering Technical Note #11 to be used with the EQIP cost share program.

Effective Date: This notice is effective upon receipt.

Explanation: Plastic pipe is generally sold by the piece or linear foot rate to the end user however the pipe cost is actually computed based on the pounds of plastic per linear foot rate. In order to adjust the pipe cost rate in contracts, a per-pound method has been implemented to make EQIP contracting easier. Each year the EQIP payment support document will be adjusted to the current pipe cost.

Note:

In order to use the pipe weight calculator spread sheet, the type of pipe material to be used will need to be determined.

Generally the majority of pipelines used in agriculture are plastic. PVC is generally used but PE is also very popular for some conditions. PVC is usually cheaper, is more readily available and easier to use. However PE is more durable, can be exposed to the elements (UV protected) and with fused joints can be leak free. Steel pipe has its advantages because of its strength, where exposure is required and above ground sites, but may not be as durable due to rust and corrosion.

Once the pipe material is chosen the spreadsheet includes a number of different options for each material.

This notice and Technical Note can be accessed electronically on the Washington eFOTG Section I, State Specific Notices, Technical Guide Amendments.

NRCS Washington employees should access the eFOTG through <https://my.nrcs.usda.gov/> . Public access can be through either the NRCS homepage or the World Wide Web at <http://efotg.nrcs.usda.gov/> .

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