NRCS provides technical and financial assistance that:

- Quantifies how energy can be used more efficiently to reduce input costs
- Increases productivity per unit of energy consumed by equipment and lighting
- Reduces air pollutants and greenhouse gas emissions caused when energy is generated for agricultural use
EQIP On-Farm Energy Initiative

• Identify ways to reduce energy use on farms through an Agricultural Energy Management Plan (AgEMP), also known as an on-farm energy audit.

• Provide assistance to implement conservation practices that address inefficient use of on-farm energy.
EQIP On-Farm Energy Initiative

- Financial assistance is available for Agricultural Energy Management Plans (AgEMP)
  - Must be completed by a NRCS-certified Technical Service Provider (TSP)
  - Once complete, a producer may apply for assistance to implement conservation practices that address inefficient use of on-farm energy noted in the plan.
EQIP On-Farm Energy Initiative

• Agricultural Energy Management Plans (AgEMP)
  • Itemized energy use by individual systems to establish a baseline for electricity and other fuel improvements
  • Recommendations for equipment improvements and upgrades
  • Amount of potential energy reductions and financial savings for each recommendation
  • Cost estimates of potential improvements
  • Length of expected payback for energy efficiency upgrades
Already have an energy audit?

• Does it comply with a type-2 on-farm energy audit per the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers (ASABE) S612 standard? If yes...
  • This allows an eligible producer to immediately apply for assistance to implement conservation practices that address inefficient use of on-farm energy noted in the audit.
Available Conservation Practices

- Agricultural Energy Management Plan
- Farmstead Energy Improvement
- Irrigation Water Management
- Pumping Plant
- Lighting System Improvement
- Building Envelope Improvement
Available Conservation Practices

• In other words...
  • Financial assistance is available for implementation of improvements for:

✓ Lighting
✓ Plate coolers
✓ Ventilation and fans
✓ Irrigation pumps
✓ Grain dryers
✓ Greenhouse improvements
✓ Maple syrup evaporators
✓ Heating and refrigeration units
✓ Insulation and building envelope sealing
✓ Motor controls and variable speed drives
# Sample Payment Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Practice Code</th>
<th>Cost Share Program</th>
<th>Practice Name</th>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Unit Type</th>
<th>Unit Cost</th>
<th>Cost Type</th>
<th>Share Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>128</td>
<td>EQIP</td>
<td>Agricultural Energy Management Plan (AgEMP)</td>
<td>Irrigated Medium, 50 to 499 acres</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>4091.53</td>
<td>PR</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>374</td>
<td>EQIP</td>
<td>Farmstead Energy Improvement</td>
<td>Ventilation - Replacement of Conventional Exhaust Fan with High Volume, Low Speed, Efficient Exhaust Fan</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>1012.66</td>
<td>PR</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>374</td>
<td>EQIP</td>
<td>Farmstead Energy Improvement</td>
<td>Plate Cooler</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>4926.13</td>
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<tr>
<td>670</td>
<td>EQIP</td>
<td>Lighting System Improvement</td>
<td>Lighting - Replace Existing Luminaire With LED Lamp</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>16.72</td>
<td>PR</td>
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<tr>
<td>672</td>
<td>EQIP</td>
<td>Building Envelope Improvement</td>
<td>Building Envelope - Attic Insulation</td>
<td>SqFt</td>
<td>.54</td>
<td>PR</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
EQIP On-Farm Energy Initiative

- EQIP apps must meet criteria for:
  1. Producer eligibility
  2. Land eligibility, and
  3. The proposed project must address at least one natural resource concern.

  - Natural resource concerns addressed by the On-Farm Energy Initiative:
    - Inefficient Energy Use-Equipment and Facilities
    - Inefficient Energy Use-Farming/Ranching Practices
Producer Eligibility

- **Applicant** must be an agricultural producer: engaged in ag production or forestry management or have an interest in the agricultural or forestry operation associated with the land being offered for enrollment in EQIP.
- **Applicant** must have control of the land for proposed contract period.
Producer Eligibility

• Applicant must be in compliance with
  • Highly erodible land & wetland conservation compliance provisions
  • Adjusted gross income requirements
  • Payment limitation requirements

• Entities
  • DUNS/SAM
Land Eligibility

- **Land** must be agricultural land, nonindustrial private forest land, or other land on which agricultural products, livestock, or forest-related products are produced.
EQIP On-Farm Energy Initiative

• More questions?

  – Contact your local USDA-NRCS District Conservationist or:

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    USDA-NRCS-MI
    (517) 324-5257
    becky.otto@mi.usda.gov