

SUBCHAPTER G—ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

PART 799—ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS—COMPLIANCE WITH THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT

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APPENDIX 1 TO PART 799—ORGANIZATION CHART—FSA-USDA

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AUTHORITY: Pub. L. 91-190, 83 Stat. 852, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4321); E.O. 11514; E.O. 11991; 40 CFR 1507.3, 7 CFR 3100.

SOURCE: 45 FR 32313, May 16, 1980, unless otherwise noted.

§ 799.1 Background.

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 *et seq.*) establishes national policies and goals for the protection of the environment. Section 102(2) of NEPA contains certain procedural requirements directed toward the attainment of such goals. Section (102)(2) also requires all Federal agencies to give appropriate consideration to the environmental effects of their proposed actions in their decisionmaking and to prepare detailed environmental statements on recommendations or reports on proposals for legislation and other major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. Executive Order 11991 of May 24, 1977 (42

FR 26967), directed the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) to issue regulations to implement the procedural provisions of NEPA. Accordingly, CEQ issued final NEPA regulations (40 CFR parts 1500 through 1508) on November 29, 1978, which are binding on all Federal agencies as of July 30, 1979. These regulations provide that each Federal agency shall as necessary adopt implementing procedures to supplement the regulations. The U.S. Department of Agriculture adopted such procedures in a final rule (7 CFR part 3100) published on July 30, 1979. The CEQ regulations at 40 CFR 1507.3 (b) identify those items which must be addressed in agency procedures.

§ 799.2 Purpose.

The purpose of this part is to establish agency procedures which supplement NEPA regulations issued by CEQ and USDA. This regulation, together with such NEPA regulations issued by CEQ and USDA, will supersede regulations issued by the Farm Service Agency (FSA) on December 20, 1974 (39 FR 43996).

§ 799.3 Applicability.

This part, together with NEPA regulations issued by CEQ and USDA, applies to all programs administered by FSA which might have significant impacts on the environment.

§ 799.4 Definitions.

(a) The term *environmental evaluation* means agency appraisal of the potential or likely environmental impacts of proposed legislation, a new program, a major change in a program, an action related to a program or an action related to part of a program which will be used by the responsible agency official to determine whether or not an environmental assessment and/or an environmental impact statement is needed. Such appraisal shall relate to the same environmental concerns as an environmental impact statement. The environmental evaluation shall particularly