§ 1436.17 Environmental compliance.

(a) Except as otherwise specified in this section, prior to approval of any farm storage facility loan, an environmental evaluation will be completed to determine if the proposed action will have any adverse impacts on the environment and cultural resources.

(b) If it is determined that a proposed action or group of proposed actions will not result in any adverse impact, the action will be considered as being categorically excluded for the purpose of compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), 40 CFR parts 1500–1508.

(c)(1) If adverse environmental impacts (either direct or indirect) are identified, an environmental assessment will be completed in accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality’s Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA.

(2) The environmental assessment will be used to develop an action that results in no significant environmental impact on the human environment or cultural resources.

(3) No action will be approved that has been determined to have significant impacts on the human environment or cultural resources.

(d)(1) In order to minimize the exposure to environmental liabilities from the presence of contamination on real estate collateral, an evaluation will be made of the economic and environmental risks to the real estate collateral posed by the presence of hazardous substances and petroleum products.

(2) If the evaluation made under paragraph (d)(1) of this section reveals that the collateral is or may be contaminated, then the applicant will be notified and given an option of offering as collateral other real estate that is free from contamination or remediating the contamination on the original site offered as collateral.

§ 1436.18 Appeals.

The appeal, reconsideration, or review of all determinations made under this part, except for provisions for which there are no appeal rights because they are determined rules of general applicability, must be in accordance with parts 11 and 780 of this title.

§ 1436.19 Equal Opportunity and Non-discrimination requirements.

(a) No recipient of a Storage Facility loan will directly, or through contractual or other arrangement, subject any person or cause any person to be subjected to discrimination on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, gender, or other prohibited basis. Borrowers must comply with all applicable Federal laws and regulations regarding equal opportunity in hiring, procurement, and related matters. FSFL borrowers are subject to the non-discrimination provisions applicable to Federally assisted programs contained in 7 CFR parts 15 and 15b.

(b) With respect to any aspect of a credit transaction, CCC will not discriminate against any applicant on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, disability, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or age, provided the applicant can execute a legal contract. FSFL is subject to the non-discrimination provisions applicable to Federally conducted programs contained in 7 CFR parts 15d and 15e. Nor will CCC discriminate on the basis of whether all or a part of the applicant’s income derives from any public assistance program, or whether the applicant in good faith, exercises any rights under the Consumer Protection Act.