§ 1450.200 General.

(a) As provided in this subpart, establishment payments and annual payments may be provided by CCC to producers of eligible crops within a project area.

(b) [Reserved]

§ 1450.201 Project area proposal submission requirements.

(a) To be considered for selection as a project area, a project sponsor must submit a proposal to CCC that includes, at a minimum:

(1) A description of the sources of renewable biomass, eligible land, and eligible crops that may be enrolled within the proposed project area;

(2) A letter of commitment from a biomass conversion facility stating that the facility will use, for BCAP purposes, eligible crops intended to be produced in the proposed project area;

(3) Information demonstrating that the biomass conversion facility will have sufficient equity available to operate if the facility is not operational at the time the project area proposal is submitted; and

(4) Other information that gives CCC a reasonable assurance that the biomass conversion facility will be in operation in a timely manner so that it will utilize the eligible crops, as determined by CCC.

(b) The project area description required in paragraph (a) of this section needs to specify geographic boundaries and be described in definite terms such as acres, watershed boundaries, mapped longitude and latitude coordinates, or counties.

(c) The project area needs to be physically located near a biomass conversion facility or facilities, as determined by CCC.

(d) Project area proposals may limit the nature and types of eligible crops to be established within a project area.

§ 1450.202 Project area selection criteria.

(a) In selecting project areas, CCC will consider:

(1) The dry tons of the eligible crops proposed to be produced in the proposed project area and the probability that such crops will be used for BCAP purposes;

(2) The dry tons of renewable biomass projected to be available from sources other than the eligible crops grown on contract acres;

(3) The anticipated economic impact in the proposed project area;

(4) The opportunity for producers and local investors to participate in the ownership of the biomass conversion facility in the proposed project area;

(5) The participation rate by beginning or socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers;

(6) The impact on soil, water, and related resources;

(7) The variety in biomass production approaches within a project area, including agronomic conditions, harvest and postharvest practices, and monoculture and polyculture crop mixes;

(8) The range of eligible crops among project areas; and

(9) Any other additional criteria, as determined by CCC.

(b) [Reserved]